

RECREATION

Formerly THE PLAYGROUND

— February, 1932 —

The Development of Personality through Leisure

By Maria Lambin Rogers

Forest Activities for Winter Recreationists

By Marie F. Heisley

Adventures in Winter Sports

By Ruby M. Jolliffe

Lighting for Outdoor Winter Sports

By W. D'A. Ryan

A Valentine Party in 1982

By Mary J. Breen

Volume XXV, No. II

Price 25 Cents

RECREATION

Published by and in the interests of the National Recreation Association
formerly named Playground and Recreation Association of America

Published monthly
at
315 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Subscription \$2.00 per year

RECREATION is on file in public libraries and is indexed in the
Readers' Guide

Table of Contents

	PAGE
Development of Personality through Leisure, The by Maria Lambin Rogers	599
Forest Activities for Winter Recreationists, by Marie F. Heisley	605
Adventures in Winter Sports, by Ruby M. Jolliffe	608
Winter Sports	611
Ice Skating Rinks, by E. F. Morgan	613
Health Values of Winter Sports	615
Lighting for Outdoor Winter Sports, by W. D'A. Ryan	616
An Experiment in Drama	617
A Washington Party	618
A Valentine Party in 1982, by Mary J. Breen	622
Organization of a Community Center, The, by Jacob W. Feldman	625
Leisure a Moral Test	629
Story of a Playground, The, by Emily Bright Burnham	630
Home Building and Home Ownership	632
Leisure Problem, The, by A. Barratt Brown	634
World at Play	635
Clarence Howard	638
Magazines and Pamphlets	642
New Books on Recreation	643

Entered as second-class matter June 12, 1929, at the Post Office at New York, New York,
under Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in
Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized May 1, 1924.

Copyright, 1932, by the National Recreation Association

Can We Afford Recreation Now?

INCOME is lower. Taxes are higher. The need for relief in food, clothing, shelter, is greater. Wisely or not — everyone is cutting expenditures, looking for a place to cut. City governments and taxpayer's associations are no exception!

A bankrupt city or nation must cut all expenses. But where a city is not bankrupt, what then? Shall we in modern cities cut first the play of our little children? Shall we begin there? Play for children is life, growth. Play is the most characteristic activity of childhood. Only so far as a child plays is he really alive. Play is the most important means for the education of the child. Shall the first reduction be at the expense of our children's life and education? If so, our bankruptcy is more than financial. It is spiritual and cultural.

Where the emergency is great, schools and playgrounds must, of course, economize as well as firemen and policemen. But there is no economy in closing playgrounds and adding more policemen and filling our hospital beds with children injured in street play.

And what about those who know the "bitter leisure of unemployment"? There is often no use in seeking for work when there is none, when the soles of the shoes are already worn through. There is leisure more than ever has been known before in the history of the world. Men have "hungers" for music, drama, for making things with their hands, for games, for being together in a social way. Shall these hungers be denied at a time like this when there is no money to buy?

Is it better that idle upon the street corner men shall stand, and women, too, and gloom meet gloom? Or is it wiser to leave open our recreation centers where the unemployed and their families may come for a warmth that is more than physical, where they can know activity that brings at least a measure of happiness, where there is good comradeship and cheer, where the passing of time is forgotten?

Members of city governments — choose you whether you will be wise and long visioned or shortsighted in your economy. For every act of folly is costly.

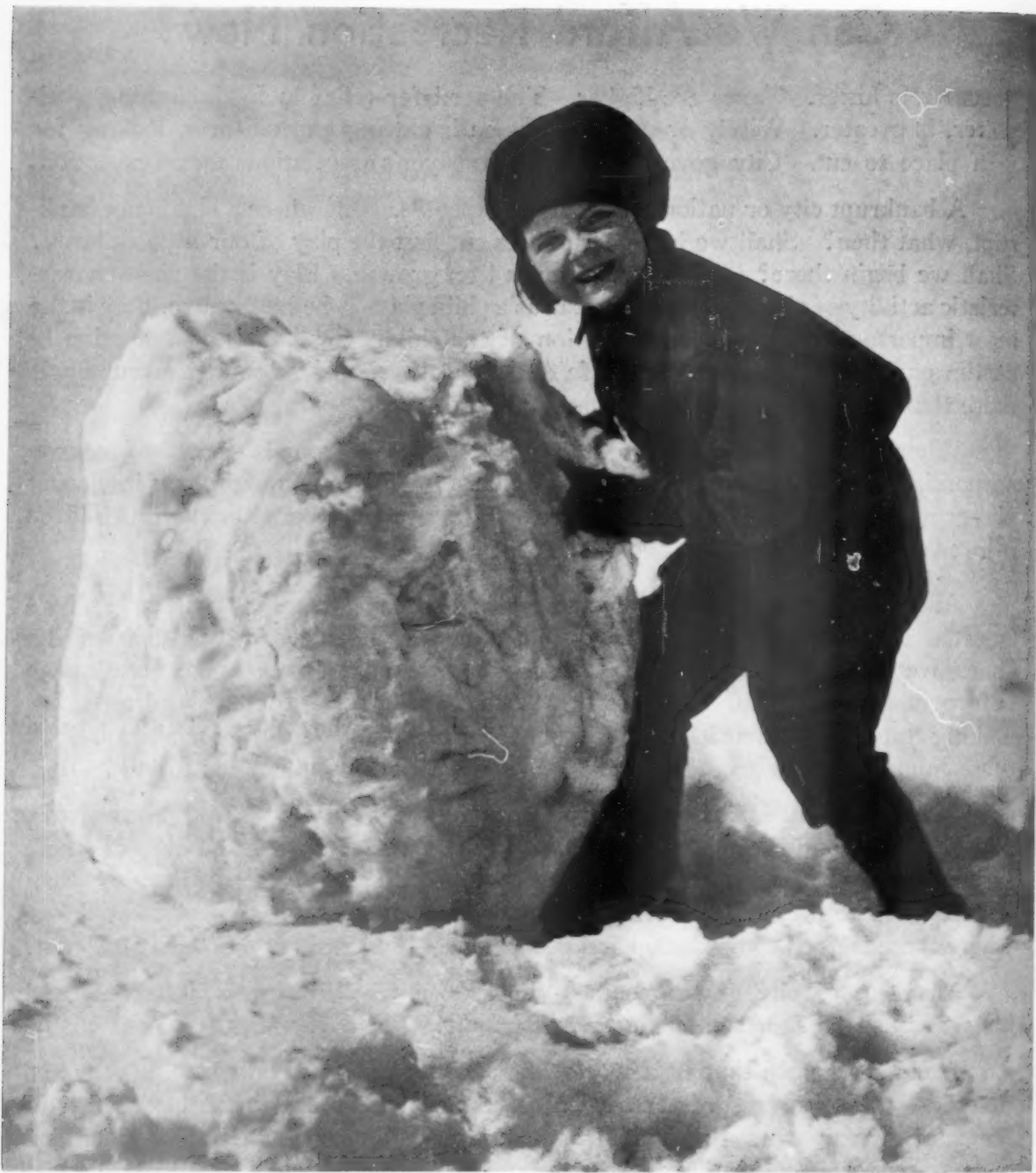
And God knows that in a world like ours today full of unreasoning fear and despair — there is even greater need of good cheer and morale than in the days of the World War when the United States expended nearly two hundred million dollars for recreation.

Make every economy possible in recreation expenditures — yes, but we may well be careful how we close our schools, our playgrounds, our recreation centers, which stand for the reconstructed future when normal living shall again prevail.

Take a few cents out of the tax dollar for recreation, and what is left is worth more than the whole tax dollar was before.

HOWARD BRAUCHER

Winter Days



H. Armstrong Roberts

"There is nothing more rare or quite so nearly perfect as a clear, crisp, sunshiny day in midwinter. The winter storm gods have never been excelled as landscape architects. They decorate the countryside in a coat of virgin white which, charming in its very simplicity and beautiful in its spotlessness, is a sight for any eye. Especially does the beauty of the wintry landscape appeal to us after a fresh

fall of snow. This spreads the walls and fences with a fluffy white frosting and drapes the trees of the forest with festoons of exquisite loveliness. And this beauty is further enhanced if we view it at sunrise when the face of Nature takes on a delicate tint that renders it more charming than when seen under the broad light of noonday."—*W. Dustin White in The Book of Winter Sports.*

The Development of Personality Through Leisure

By MARIA LAMBIN ROGERS

A brief stock-taking of a
few of our social factors.

"**W**E want fullness of life in America for the average man."

In the past forty years vast recreation enterprises have been set up in the United States, the avowed purpose of which is to afford the average man opportunities for fullness of life. Between purpose and achievement, however, a vast gulf lies. Particularly in any sociological undertaking is this true. We recreation workers cannot too often take stock of what is being done, of what is yet to be accomplished and of the social factors in our civilization which threaten the successful accomplishment of our dreams. Many considerations must enter into such a stock-taking, some of which are outlined in the succeeding paragraphs.

Perhaps it will help us to orient ourselves toward this subject if we consider briefly another pressing social problem which we are all thinking about today, namely unemployment. We are confronted continuously with explanations of its cause, of its unfortunate psychological and social effects, and with plans for its solution, some superficial, some aiming at permanent cure. A few speakers and writers take the position that it is a natural economic ill which will right itself and no effective social action can be marshalled to solve the problems it presents. Suggestions infinite in number are made for dealing with the poverty it causes. Some want immediate charitable relief without regard to the standards of family rehabilitation which have been slowly formulated through forty years of work by the family welfare societies; others, temporary odd jobs; some, the collection of funds to give heads of families part time employment and thus save

Mrs. Rogers speaks from a background of rich experience in the leisure-time field. She is author of a recently published booklet entitled "A Contribution to the Theory and Practise of Parents' Associations."

their self-respect; some, the pushing forward of public works. Then more fundamental reforms are advocated, such as the extension of mothers' pensions to save children from the evil psychological effects of insecurity and enforced poverty, the development of State unemployment insurance, and so on. We hear discussions of the psychological effect of unemployment on the children of the family and its connection with juvenile delinquency and adult anti-social attitudes. And we have long scientific and unscientific dissertations on who is to blame, colored according to the political or economic biases of the writers.

I have named only a few of the vast social ramifications of this pressing problem into which we have recently been plunged and towards which the energies of the country are turned in an attempt to find temporary or permanent solutions. I have done this because I thought this problem, which is current news at the moment, would well illustrate the social importance, the magnitude and the complexity which confront us when we begin to discuss the problems concerned with leisure time. The analogy may be pushed even further: the way in which each individual spends his leisure time affects him as profoundly psychologically as the loss of his work in a period of unemployment affects his living conditions and his future economic security. And the opportunities for healthful and happy use of leisure time are

of as much social concern as it is generally acknowledged that unemployment is. Each subject is a challenge to our best, most scientific thinking, and to our ability to work together intelligently toward the solution of the many problems they indicate.

The subject of leisure time should be approached from a broad philosophical point of view. So far, no definitive solutions have been formulated for lack of adequate data on which to form conclusions and make recommendations. There are, it is true, plenty of discussions of leisure time problems in magazines, the newspapers, the pulpit, classrooms and forums, but accurate scientific studies of the problems involved are very few. Practically every solution advanced is a rationalization of the individual writer's or speaker's prejudices. The subject is still in the stage where anybody's generalization goes, provided it is presented with sufficient force and skill to arouse conviction.

Factors in the Modern Leisure Time Problem

No solutions therefore will be presented in this article. I shall merely call attention to some of the factors which enter into the leisure time problem in modern society and indicate some of the experiments which seem to be contributing towards solutions.

First among the factors to be considered is the physiological and emotional nature of man. Play for the child and recreation for the adult have a definite physiological and psychological function. When the child or the man is deprived of them he suffers from lop-sided development of the intellectual faculties at the expense of his other faculties. Man is not only an intellectual being. He has four equally important functions — feeling, sensation, thought and imagination, all of which must be developed if he is to have physical and mental health. Our civilization today does not provide for such all-round development. Quite the contrary. The psychoanalyst, Dr. Carl Jung, has made what I think is the best statement of this situation: He says in *Psychological Types*: "We possess today a highly devel-

oped collective culture, which in organization excels anything that ever existed, but which for that reason has become increasingly injurious to individual culture." By which Jung means development of all the individual's capacities, feeling, sensation, thought and intuition or imagination. "There exists a deep gulf between what a man is and what he represents, i.e. between the man as an individual and his function-capacity as a collective being"—that is, his contribution as a member of society. "His function is developed at the expense of his individuality." "But," he continues, "this onesided development must inevitably lead to a reaction, since the repressed . . . functions cannot be indefinitely excluded

from . . . life and development. The time will come when the cleavage of the inner man must be resolved and the undeveloped (functions) granted an opportunity to live."

It follows from this that in his leisure time man must pursue activities which resolve this cleavage and give him an opportunity to exercise his repressed functions.

If no such outlets are provided by our social institutions, and man is valued only for the work he does, the repressed functions show themselves in violent anti-social activities, such as revolutions, crowd and mob behavior of various kinds with which we are familiar, in crime and delinquency or in neuroses and psychoses, where the conflict is wholly internal. For those who are interested in a more detailed study of this type of human behavior, I recommend Everett Dean Martin's *Behavior of Crowds*, where the mechanisms, of this kind of release from repressions are fully described.

Development of All Functions Essential

This development of all the functions of man must begin in childhood. Such play habits must be built in early life so that as an adult, man can derive the maximum satisfaction from his recreational life. There is, therefore, a close connection between the type of education to which a child is subjected and the kind of recreational activities which he will embrace as an adult. The old-fashioned

"Nothing can stay the rapid mechanization of industry and the arts, for this is in the direction of easier living. Along with this must come greater leisure, though, as we are already aware, this increased leisure can hardly be realized without a drastic reorganization of our economic system."—*Professor Arthur H. Compton, Nobel Prize Winner.*

academic education dealing only with subject matter to be crammed into the child, affording no opportunities for training in active participation in group-life, in making things, in exercising the imagination and expanding the emotional endowment, while all the time the child was held almost inert in a school room with nailed down seats, was perhaps the worst possible preparation for a life of well-spent leisure. The child who does not know how to use his body will not enjoy dancing as an art when he grows up; the child who is afraid of spontaneous self-expression will not dare to play a trap-drum just for the fun of it when he is older; the child who has not painted seriously will not pursue this subject as an amateur in later life. Do not accept these generalizations as dogmatic and final, for exceptions to all of them are a matter of common observation, but these are the logical inferences to be drawn from the physiological and psychological data at present available. The fact that there are exceptions simply bears out what I said above about the paucity of scientific data on this subject.

We can be quite certain, however, that the early education of the child has a definite bearing on the ways in which he will spend his leisure time as an adult. It is evident from this that one solution to the leisure-time problem is bound up with the spread of the so-called progressive education movement to all our educational systems, public and private, which must learn to take the child's needs as their starting point and not a certain amount of stereotyped subject matter to be crammed into him in the shortest possible time. The more children are given the advantage of that type of education which makes large demands on initiative, imagination, participation in activities, independence of thought and judgment, the more demand there will be in adult life for leisure time activities which are rich in imaginative content and release the initiative

and resourcefulness of the individual. But fascinating as this picture of a world automatically made over by modern education may be, it is too delightful to be true, and a serious study of leisure time problems must take into account other factors, factors which are basic and will yield with more difficulty to social change.

The Influence of Machine Production

The first and most important of these is an historical fact—the change wrought in the rhythm and character of our lives by the Industrial Revolution and machine production. In the opinion of many writers the change from a handicraft to a machine economy has actually created our modern leisure time problem. Previous to the machine age, they say, the mass of men worked together and spent their little leisure time together in small village groups. Forms of recreation were traditional. They were folk-dancing, folk-songs, and seasonal festivals the outgrowth largely of religious observances which had been secularized. Indeed, many of the recreations were actually religious, as we find among primitive peoples today. The Indian dances in the South West are one example, the modern fiestas, half religious, half secular, to be seen in Mexico,

are another. And these traditional forms fully released all the energies of the individuals who participated in them. They called on physical prowess, they had deep emotional significance; they appealed to the imagination and to aesthetic appreciation. In some subtle and obscure way, those who participated found energies exhausted in work completely renewed.

But the machine age has changed all that. It has divided the day into strictly defined intervals of work and of leisure time. Furthermore, the machine, by speeding up production, has conferred on the masses immense increases of free time. This stupendous increase in the amount of leisure came at a time when the

"It is reliably stated that the increase of the working man power of machines in America has increased since 1900 about 1,100 per cent while the population has increased but about 50 per cent. It is estimated that we have machines in such numbers that their maximum potential power capacity is equal to 700,000,000 horses, and reckoning one horse equal to eight men it can be said that our machines can do the work of 5,600,000,000 adult working men. All this tremendous machine power is not being utilized at maximum capacity, but is said that 'Americans get from their machines work equivalent to the labor of about 690,000,000 adult workingmen toiling ten hours per day, 365 days in the year.'"

population was crowding into cities, thus destroying the old village work-and-play-groups and the traditional play-forms rooted in them; at a time when the real wage was mounting and everybody had more money at his free disposal than ever before in the world's history. What happened could have been predicted, taking into account the intense emphasis on commercial development in that period. Commercial enterprises for separating the man and his money during his leisure time sprang up every where and expanded as fast as the spending power of the nation permitted. By 1910 in this country, where machine production is practised most whole-heartedly, these commercial amusements dominated the field of leisure time activities.

Commercial Amusements

But here it is important to make the point that what these commercial enterprises offered was not the old, intimate, physiologically and psychologically satisfying experience, which we term "recreation," but amusement and entertainment, which are quite a different thing. Whether different in kind or in degree we are as yet ignorant. The psychology of recreation is an almost untouched field.

To make clear what I have just said, it is necessary to define these three words: recreation, amusement and entertainment, as accurately as our present knowledge permits. Recreation in its earliest meaning was literally re-creation, a new birth. In a more limited sense it was used as we now use convalescence, a recovery from illness, a restoration. To Dr. John Dewey we are indebted for our best definition to date of recreation in psychological terms. He says that, "the service of recreation is to engage and release impulses . . . (through active participation) in ways quite different from those in which they are occupied and employed in ordinary activities."

"Control of natural forces by means of machinery has brought to humanity the possibility of an amount of leisure from which the mass of men and women in the past were hopelessly shut out. At the same time, popular amusements and recreation have been seized upon as means of financial profit. The combination of these two facts has created what may be truly called a crisis in our national moral life. A new conception of the uses of leisure has to be created; boys and girls need to be instructed so that they can discriminate between the enjoyments that enrich and enlarge their lives and those which degrade and dissipate."--Dr. John Dewey, *The New York Times*.

The drive towards participation comes largely from within and its expression is spontaneous, free and individual. Dewey adds, "Such recreations add fresh and deeper meanings to the usual activities of life." They utilize drives and powers not expressed at all or only partially in work, the expression of which reveal to the individual a new aspect of himself. Amusement and entertainment do not demand this inner drive and do not lead to self-revelation. They are responses to stimuli from outside. Amusement is the sensation one gets when an outside stimulus like a roller coaster is applied. Entertainment contains elements of ap-

preciation such as are called forth by listening to grand opera or looking at paintings. * Now the commercial amusements are organized to supply opportunities for amusement, to some degree for entertainment, but certainly not for self-revelation. If self-revelation is derived from participation in any one of them, it is an individual accident. A glance at a list of these amusements will make this contention clear without further argument. They include dance halls, poolrooms, amusement parks, carnivals, professional hockey, baseball and football and other sports, cabarets, theatres, vaudeville and burlesque. Radio and Tom Thumb golf are recent additions.

It is generally admitted that opportunities for self-revelation in work have been cut down by machine processes and that they are not now so common as they were in the handicraft age. Therefore it is all the more necessary that the individual should have these experiences in his leisure time. But what has happened in the twentieth century is that the leisure of modern man is spent going from one commercial amusement to another, and that his leisure time has therefore become what Prof. L. P. Jacks calls "devitalized." To put

*A definition for which I am indebted to Dr. Jay E. Nash of New York University.

it another way, the rich heritage of recreational opportunities which man has enjoyed for untold centuries has been lost and nothing has been put in its place which is equally satisfying physiologically and psychologically. With his ancient right to self-expression thus lost, man's life has become impoverished and sterile beyond computation. Meanwhile, the commercial amusements flourish, ranking in importance in financial investment, income and turnover with our largest industries, such as steel, oil and rubber.

Enter Publicly Supported Recreation

Until very recently there was no widespread reaction against this situation, but some time after the opening of the century, with the increased knowledge of child nature and child nurture brought by psychology, children's playgrounds sprang up in large numbers throughout the country. Educators and social workers

brought home to the public the sterility of opportunities for children's play caused by the congestion of city population and the horrifying discovery that children were fast forgetting how to play in the sophisticated atmosphere of the time. When the children's playgrounds were established, it was found that young wage-earners craved opportunities to play also and they invaded the hitherto closed school houses, and gymnasiums and park field houses for their use were built by municipalities at public expense. Then another surprising discovery was made. Adults, too, desired opportunities to do more spontaneous things than the commercial amusements permitted. They liked amateur theatricals, handicrafts,

amateur painting, participation in sports and a hundred other activities. Enormous expansion of private and public recreation systems was the result, in which wide opportunity was offered for all forms of play and recreational activities for children and adults. The supply does not keep pace with the demand. And it was discovered that such healthy participation in activities really refreshed the workers and sent them back to their jobs with renewed vigor. In other words, practise bore out the theory alluded to above. States, too, through State park systems, are helping to provide for



Courtesy "Parks and Recreation"

Then came the public recreation movement and the opportunity for participation for all.

the recreational needs of the people. Admirable beginnings have been made by the State park system of New York, by California in the use of State lands for marvelous family camps, and by many other places throughout the country with which you are all familiar.

In this all too brief summary of the factors entering into the leisure time problem, mention must be made of the part played by city planners and the new housing experiments. The city planners are insisting that any proper city plan make wide provision for space for play and recreation. The new housing experiments are pointing the way to private provision for play and recreation for the children of the community and for the adults. They

have already demonstrated that the community which has these opportunities is happier and more content with life than the ordinary city dwellers within high walls, who have no tennis courts or baseball fields at their backdoors.

To sum up, the future character assumed by our American civilization rests in no small measure upon the workers in the recreation movement, by which I mean not only the professional staff but those devoted men and women who give hours of time and energy to discussion of policies, to raising money and lending prestige to the work.

Well-informed Leadership Vital

We want fullness of life in America for the average man. Fullness of life depends on integration of thought, sensation, feeling and imagination. That integration must begin in childhood, or rather, children must not be robbed of it through educational methods founded not on their needs but on irrelevant opportunism. A beginning towards this kind of education has been made in some of our progressive schools. Therefore, the workers in recreation movement are vitally concerned with the development of progressive education. I should like to see this relationship made more explicit and see an interchange of opinion and experience going on between these two groups all over the country.

Recreation workers are also closely concerned with the development of city planning, which has just begun to catch the imagination of our population. They are concerned, too, with the development of the housing movement by means of which the majority of homes will be provided with more adequate recreational facilities than has been the case in the past and thus be enabled to supplement the work done in the recreation centers. Recreation workers are concerned with following the findings of modern anthropology and psychology. In the anthropologists' study of primitive people recreation workers can learn how man in previous civilizations has solved his leisure problem, for it is a problem as old as life. Modern psychology will give him the scientific basis for his work. It will enable him to plan programs with increasing scientific precision. When the recreation movement started forty years ago, we had little scientific basis beyond the writings of Froebel, Schiller, Gross and James. Today we have a host of child

psychologists and research bureaus and the remarkable investigations of Jung, Freud and Adler to aid our work. Jung has gone beyond Schiller and made his 18th century contribution to this problem more precise.

Indirectly the recreation workers are also dependent on the new movement of parent education by which parents will be taught more about the fundamental needs of childhood and human nature and will be led to a more adequate appreciation of recreation work. A sound basis of parent understanding will make possible more generous community support for recreation enterprises and will enable the workers to erect and adhere to higher qualitative standards of work, thus diminishing the emphasis on numbers which has characterized so many recreation institutions in the past.

Workers in recreation are more baffled than workers in other branches of social work. That is because theirs is the most difficult, the most all-involving of the social arts. Theirs is the life art. Through it a new level for our group life may be attained. The movement towards this new level of human life is involved with the very foundations of our society. To realize that great issues are involved in recreation is a dynamic experience, but it also makes us challenge and scrutinize continually our programs and our methods, our knowledge and our faith in a glorious future for American culture, which will approximate on the aesthetic and imaginative side, what we have already accomplished on the economic and intellectual side.

"It has been pointed out that individuals tend to take their recreation second-hand through watching, listening, riding, rather than through the more rewarding form of active participation. Taking the population of the country as a whole, we find 30,000,000 listeners a night, 50,000,000 movie admissions a week, 35,000,000 copies of newspapers and tabloids a day, 15,000,000 popular magazines a month, and a pleasure motoring bill of \$5,000,000,000 a year. The total costs of leisure-time activities run to \$21,000,000,000, or about one-quarter of the national income. Approximately half of it is mechanized. The battle is joined between genuine and rewarding uses of leisure, and what may be termed watching or pulling the levers of jumping jacks."—Stuart Chase.



Courtesy American Rolling Mill Company

Winter hikers establish feeding stations for the birds in the heart of the woods.

THE woods in their winter dress are just as interesting as they are at other seasons and hold almost as many pleasures for the recreation seeker. In those parts of the country where cold and snow are the order of the winter days, the forests and woodlands form the setting for many of the various winter sports that are now in full swing. Even though you do not participate in any of these sports, however, you may find pleasure both in the snowbound forests of the North and the open woods of the South.

Now that trees are bare and the undergrowth has died off, you may get many more glimpses of the wild forest denizens, and more easily follow them to observe their habits of life. Animal tracks in the snow will tell stories — sometimes tragic — of forest life. These tracks may also give you the thrill of following some wild creature to its home. If for no other reason, however, the forest is fascinating in winter because of the trees themselves.

At this time of the year the evergreens come into their own, making pictures of beauty in their dress of dark rich green

Skating, skiing, tobogganing and other snow and ice sports have a great fascination for many and justly so, but there are other winter activities which should have their place in the program. A winter walk in the woods is different from a walk at any other time of the year. It has a charm distinctly its own.

Forest Activities for Winter Recreationists

By MARIE F. HEISLEY

Forest Service
U. S. Department of
Agriculture

Trees with their blankets of snow, animal tracks, winter buds - await the coming of cold weather hikers.

or with their blankets of snow. The hardwoods, too, show off to good advantage. The beech now best displays its smooth gray bark and delicacy of outline, and the paper birches stand out in fairy whiteness. The oaks rise somber in their mantle of red brown leaves, while here and there in the winter woods the holly delights us with its crown of shiny green leaves and red berries.

Tree Study on Winter Hikes

Perhaps one of the first things noticed about trees on a winter woods excursion is the difference in their shapes, or outlines. Some may be regular, others extremely irregular. Some trees stand very straight, while others are drooping and graceful. And, too, all trees do not branch alike. Some have straight trunks extending upward to the tip, with branches growing out from the sides; others have a main stem that divides into numerous large

branches. The former are said to be excurrent and the latter deliquescent. The deliquescent form is most common among hardwoods, while most of the conifers, or evergreens, are excurrent.

Another feature of trees very noticeable in winter is the bark, which is especially interesting because it is so varied. It differs widely in the various species, on old and young trees of the same species, and even on the branches and trunk of the same tree. On some trees it is hard and smooth, like that of the beech; on others, such as white ash, it may be deeply furrowed. On the shagbark hickory the bark separates into loose strips, while the bark of paper or canoe birch, peels off into thin papery layers. Bark occasionally becomes ridged and corky, like that of the yellow poplar or tulip tree, and the cork elm.

The color of the bark is frequently very distinctive; for instance note the white, brown, pink, and yellow of the different birches. The white oak gets its name from its light gray bark. Another tree with a distinctive bark is the sycamore, or buttonwood, which is one of the most easily recognized and attractive inhabitants of the winter woods. Its bark is gray and brown and breaks off into thin brittle plates, giving the tree a mottled effect.

Some trees develop thorns on their stems and branches. The honey locust is one of this sort. It has also another characteristic, very noticeable in winter, which it shares with a number of other spe-



Los Angeles County, Calif.

He who travels unbeaten paths, who goes where Nature has hidden her winter wonders amid ice and snow, will have glimpses of rare beauty.

cies, in that its bean-like fruit may cling to its branches all winter long. Some other trees having this means of recognition are the red gum, sycamore, catalpa, and the paulownia. The yellow poplar may also hold its fruit well into the winter, and when the seed is finally scattered the empty seed cups remain standing upright on the tree.

One of the most interesting features of the trees at this season is the winter buds. These buds are formed in the summer during the growing season and are found at the tip of the twig or stem, and along its sides. They contain complete branches in miniature which develop in the spring into a new crop of twigs. If you open a bud in winter, you will find the little leaves and possibly a cluster of minute flowers warmly tucked away from the winter's cold. Winter buds vary greatly. In shape they may be slender, flat, oval, pointed, or round. They may be smooth, rough, downy, or sticky; covered with scales or naked; and they may differ in color from pale yellow to inky black. The horse chestnut has a most distinctive bud. It is large, brown, and covered with a gummy substance. The reddish-brown buds of the beech are lance-like and pointed. The buds of the red maple are rounded and red, while those of the sugar maple are slender, pointed and brown.

Sugar From Trees

In the very late winter, beginning with the first warm days that herald the coming of spring, the sap begins to stir in the trees, for the little

root hairs growing at the tips of the rootlets renew their work of collecting water from the soil. This water holds in solution various substances, mostly mineral, which form a part of the tree's food supply, and is gradually drawn up to the topmost twig, moving more rapidly as the temperature rises and slowing up as it drops. This movement of the sap continues all through the growing season until the time when the trees once more resume their winter sleep.

With the first flow of the sap comes "sugar weather," that time of the year when the farmer taps his maple trees for their sweet fluid. It begins in late February or March, and continues from four to six weeks, or until the buds begin to swell. If you live in a locality where maple sugar and syrup are produced, it would be good fun to pay a visit to a sugar orchard. There you may see the tapped trees and the sap dripping from a spout inserted in them into a bucket hung beneath. The farmer may even let you help him empty the buckets and take the collected sap to the boiling house. Best of all he may generously give you samples of his maple products. Although persons living in the Northeastern and other northern States may seem to have a "corner" on maple sugar and syrup, maple products are obtained in commercial quantities in some southern and middle western States, and in fact, may be taken in any locality where the sugar maple or its close relative, the black maple, is abundant.

Forest Study Clubs

Organization of a forestry club either of young people or adults is an interesting community activity. Meetings may be held once or twice a month, an indoor meeting alternating with a field trip. Early in the year is a good time to form a club of this kind. The program may be begun with a general survey of forests and forestry in the United States or with a study of wood from the forest to the finished product. If you live in a wooded region, field trips may be made to the forest, where winter lumbering operations may be in progress. It would also be interesting to visit a sawmill. During the winter specimens may be collected of the various kinds of wood found in the locality, and they may be labeled and mounted for exhibition purposes. Since winter buds lend themselves to study and experiment, the collection and observation of buds is another good club project.

A forest study club can be carried on throughout the whole year with activities varied for each

season. Information about how to form a forestry club and suggestions for club study are given in "Forestry Clubs for Young People," Miscellaneous Publication 45 of the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture. This publication contains useful hints for leaders of 4-H forestry clubs, school clubs, Boy Scouts, and other recreation groups carrying on nature activities. It may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., for five cents a copy.

Forestry Dramatics

Another interesting way to present forestry subjects in your community work is through the medium of dramatics. Forestry playlets, masques, or pageants require only very simple settings which can be made by the persons taking part in the performance. A booklet, *Forest Songs and Playlets*, published by the State Forester at Salem, Oregon, contains two playlets, "The Trial of Forest Fire," and "The Camp Fire," that are easy to produce. The American Forestry Association published in some of its Forest Week material a pageant, "A Year in the Forest," by Viola Offut. Information about this pageant can be obtained from the American Forestry Association, 1727 K Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. The same association has prepared a masque, "The Forest Fire Helpers." "A Masque of Conservation," by Constance D'Arcy Mackay, is somewhat more elaborate but will make an effective performance. This masque is found in *The Forest Princess and Other Masques*, by the same author. The book is published by Henry Holt and Company of New York. Of course a forestry or nature study group may write and produce its own forest play.

Forestry Songs

Why not learn some forest songs during the winter evenings? Most people love to sing and there are many forest songs that can be sung to well-known tunes. Two such songs, "Made of Wood," sung to the tune of "America, the Beautiful," and "On Forest Land," having the air of "Maryland, My Maryland," are to be found in the *Program for the Observance of Forest Week* (M-5071) prepared by the United States Forest Service for the use of schools, clubs, and like organizations. Copies of this folder may be obtained free from the U. S. Forest Service, Washington, D. C. The booklet, *Forest Songs and*

(Continued on page 639)

Adventures in Winter Sports

By RUBY M. JOLLIFFE

Superintendent Camp Department
• Palisades Interstate Park

An initiation into the
joys of winter camping



Courtesy "Child Welfare"

Skating—skiing—tramping over snowy trails—
and then the grateful warmth of the camp fire!

To a multitude of people who have had happy and fortunate summer camping experiences there is magic in the sound "winter camping." To get away in winter as in summer, to be out-of-doors, to enjoy all the rare pleasures which winter time in the woods offers—that is the hope and ambition of good summer campers. To others this picture brings a shiver, a vision of half-cooked foods, smoky fires, cold rooms and shivery nights, with the wind singing—or is it whistling—through the cracks in the walls and snow sifting in beneath the doors! It is unfortunate when a would-be enthusiast has the latter experience.

The Art of Winter Camping

Winter camping is an art to be learned like any other art and requires patience, technical skill, good sportsmanship and, to a certain degree, endurance. If the first three requirements are fulfilled it will not be an endurance test but a test of skill and of adaptability, and winter camping will become one of the most interesting and satisfactory of all sports. One should be as comfortable in a winter cabin as in a summer camp. To be so one must know a few simple things—how to find and cut wood to start a fire in a stove or

fireplace or out of doors; how to tend these fires; how to prepare simple but nourishing food with the least expense of energy; how to buy for the meals so as to have enough but not too much; and how to organize the party to equalize the work and keep the machinery hidden but smoothly running. Often in a camping party over a winter week-end some one more experienced than the rest in the culinary art is doomed to stay all morning or afternoon indoors to fuss over meals and tend fires while the others spend their time working up an appetite. They blow in, fresh and rosy, to exclaim to the volunteer cook, "Oh, you missed it!" Or sometimes no one stays in to tend the fires and to cook and every one comes back to dead fires, cold cabins, and unattractive, raw foodstuffs, which no magic has prepared. A happy medium keeps every one happy. Camp should be kept clean and the meals should be well cooked, but the work so planned that each one does his or her share and does it cheerfully and happily. If duties are properly assigned—hauling water, tending fires, cooking, cleaning up and burning garbage—there will be no drones

and no queen bees in the hive. When this art of winter camping is learned, there should be a maximum amount of fun and a minimum amount of drudgery.

For the thorough enjoyment of outdoor sports, it is essential that some time and thought be put upon the question of clothing for winter. Keep warmth and comfort in mind, but do not forget that camp clothes can make or mar. There is no reason why they should not be chosen with a view to color, neatness and attractiveness, just as city clothes are chosen. The modern, bright-colored ski costumes are attractive on some figures; so also are knicker suits, with flannel shirt, cap, leather coat, windbreaker or heavy sweater in contrasting color. Wool hose are essential and should be terminated by low heeled, comfortable sport shoes. A five inch shoe protects the ankles and is less cumbersome than the high shoe. Crepe soles are very satisfactory and in any case the heels must be low to avoid accidents. There is a waterproof shoe on the market—a combination of rubber sole with leather top—which, however, is rather cumbersome. The regular hiking shoe can be treated with various preparations or with paraffin and oil and be made fairly waterproof. The danger with these methods is that ventilation is apt to be entirely cut off from the foot.

Then Comes the Fun!

And now for the real fun outdoors. Perhaps the most popular of the outdoor sports and one of the most thrilling is tobogganing. It can be enjoyed by any one who will observe a few simple rules of common sense and safety, and avoid foolhardy attempts at showing off. One would think that the thrill of the descent would be more than counteracted by the long trail one has to climb to the top of the hill, carrying a toboggan; but evidently this is not so, for again and again the trip up and down is made.

The art of snow-shoeing is soon learned and then there is great sport in store,

especially when the snow is deep and light and the trails in the woods are most alluring. To enjoy this sport shoes at least five inches high and with low heels must be worn. Snow-shoes must be properly adjusted, and once the stride is learned, the overlapping of shoes as you walk and the proper way to turn around, you are ready to take a good hike in the woods. Of course here many difficulties will be encountered such as going up and down hill and over rocks, but if there is sufficient snow, lots of pleasure can be had in a snow-shoe tramp.

Somewhat similar, but with additional thrills in hilly country, is skiing. Once the level tracks on cross country runs have become easy there are always the tantalizing delights ahead of bigger and better hills to conquer. Very few amateurs ever aspire to the high ski jump, but whether one succeeds in this or not, there is a fascination in watching real skiers as they make the high jumps.

Bob-sledding is exhilarating, too, especially where just the right hills are found. Bob-sled racing has all the feverish excitement of other perilous races. Once you are off—away you go. It's great!

Skating requires the most practice and once it is learned the bumps and shocks that tire you out are forgotten in the delight of perfect rhythmic exercise. Those who have always skated on indoor skating rinks have yet the greatest joy to look forward to—that of skating over the smooth surface of a lovely mountain lake, no traffic to steer through, only silent, snow-clad hills round about. Nothing in the world of sport is more invigorating and recreative. Skating requires good personal equipment. Skates must fit well, be moderately sharp and should be bought with comfortably fitting shoes. Wool stockings should always be worn and if a second pair is worn—skating socks for instance—they should be a little larger if both pairs are of wool.



Courtesy "Parks and Recreation"

In buying skating shoes, try them on over the exact weight sock you intend to wear.

All winter sports to be enjoyed must be entered upon enthusiastically and fearlessly, though not in a foolhardy manner. The element of adventure gives zest to childhood's games and this adventure into the winter woods under winter skies, amid snow-covered trees, is an adventure full of mystery and fun, equal to that of any other season. For those who do not fancy these more or less technical sports, there remain the tramps afoot over the trails which have changed so completely since the summer sun tried to peek through the leafy branches of the trees. Now the views are different, bigger, more magnificent, and every step tells of heretofore undiscovered charms and seemingly new country. Here and there in the freshly fallen snow wee woodfolk have scampered and a battle or a party among them can be traced by their little footprints. Here and there a long thin line indicates the tail of a field mouse dragging between his legs as he scampered into his hiding place. Here are a few feathers and nearby the single footprints of the wary fox as he stole up on his prey. The bunny's peculiar marks suggest a moonlight sonata or a waltz with the fairy folk.

At New York's Winter Playground

One of the most popular winter playgrounds near New York is Bear Mountain. This is in the central part of the Harriman State Park, and here are provided the facilities for all kinds of sports. Toboggans, skis, snow-shoes and bobsleds may be rented. There are twin toboggan slides down the side of Bear Mountain, ending on the wide playground, and parallel slides which run onto Hessian Lake, where an ice-rimmed runway guides traffic on the ice. Skis may be used across-country or on two types of jumps—one built for experts and one for ambitious amateurs. Several times during the winter tour-

naments are held for state and interstate championships, which provide much interest and excitement for sport-loving visitors. As early as Thanksgiving Day the large covered skating rink is open to the public for a small fee. The ice is to be depended upon in all weathers and skating usually continues through the month of March.

Most of the people taking part in these sports or watching them are guests at the Bear Mountain Inn, where good accommodations may be had overnight and where meals are served at all hours. Others come just for the day, since the Park is easily accessible over first-class automobile roads and also by West Shore Railroad, where special rates are offered for week-ends. But those who are experiencing real winter camping are housed in cabins some miles from Bear Mountain. Many of the summer camps have cabins built for winter use and the organizations renting these from the Commission are privileged to use them during the winter. Last year over thirty such camps were open during the cold season. In addition, the Camping Department maintains three furnished cabins which are rented for week-ends at reasonable rates to small camping groups. These campers may come in to Bear Mountain for winter sports, but they generally prefer to use the toboggans, skis, and snow-shoes supplied at the cabins on the less crowded hills and in surrounding woods, and to skate on the open lakes.

It has been interesting to watch the development of winter camping since it was started in the Park ten years ago by the Camping Department, without regular toboggan slides or skating rinks. It has grown by tremendous leaps and bounds until now the Park is open winter and summer, and is making it possible for city people to enjoy its lakes, streams, hills and woods during all twelve months of the year.

Winter Camping in California

Through the Department of Playground and Recreation of Los Angeles, California, winter week-end outings are arranged to Camp Seeley for the industrial groups organized by the Department. The camp, located in the San Bernardino Mountains seventy-five miles from Los Angeles, is on a slope where the snowfall is usually heavy throughout the winter, making

winter sports possible. Tobogganing, skiing, sledging, snowshoeing and other winter sports make the outings very popular. The cost of accommodations is nominal. Bus transportation for round trip is \$2.50; a charge of \$1.50 is made for three meals, while 50 cents is the cost of overnight lodging in a cabin, making the total cost \$4.50. Campers bring their own blankets and towels.

Winter Sports

from the ice after heavy snowfalls. This plan has been made possible through the cooperation of the Fire Department which permits the Department of Recreation to open fire hydrants and spray the rinks.



Courtesy Bureau of Recreation, Chicago Board of Education.

If you haven't real skis, barrel staves will provide even more fun for you and everybody!

**There's a thrill in winter sports
which you'll find in nothing else.**

WHAT are cities doing in the promotion of winter sports? Growing interest in this phase of the recreation program is necessitating increased emphasis on providing facilities, and rinks and toboggan slides, meets and winter sports weeks are growing in number wherever the climate permits.

Two Hundred Rinks in Detroit

The Department of Recreation of Detroit has about two hundred skating rinks scattered throughout the city on school grounds, park grounds, playgrounds and public property. In many instances the people of the community throw up the banks, the Department of Recreation floods them, and the people themselves clean the snow

On the Chicago School Playgrounds

Ice skating efficiency tests are a part of the January-February program conducted by the Bureau of Recreation, Chicago Board of Education. Through these contests an amateur who is mediocre is given an opportunity to better her ability on the playground ice pond with the instructor acting as coach and timer. Even the finished skater is interested in her ability and likes to test her skill. All age groups are eligible to compete. If any individual succeeds in skating a given number of yards in a given time or in a given manner and performs the required figure skating, she is awarded a medal.

Ski jumping is another popular winter sport. Two old barrel staves, two straps and one red-blooded boy are the ingredients for this concoction of thrills, spills and action! The sport is open to boys under fifteen years of age.

There are also sled meets—one for boys and one for girls. This is one of the most enjoyable forms of recreation for children under ten and twelve years of age. The event usually begins with a towing contest, followed by a push and coast and the shuttle relay. Snow modeling still has its place on the program of the Chicago school playgrounds. The instructors judge the works of art and red, white and blue ribbons are given the first, second and third best modelers on each playground.

Oak Park's Ice Derby

Every year the Oak Park, Illinois, Playground Board holds an inter-playground ice derby with events divided into three classes for boys, girls and young people between the ages of eight and twenty-two. Elimination races are held on each playground and the three winners represent their grounds at the finals. The events include the usual short sprints up to one mile for seniors, backward skating, novelties and relays. Awards of pins, medals and ribbons are given the winners. All the municipal playgrounds are flooded

for skating as soon as the weather permits and there is a large attendance at the rinks. An ice hockey rink on one playground provided for inter-playground contests.

In New Haven's Parks

In New Haven's park system natural water areas and streams are utilized by damming and by building dikes to form areas where ice hockey may be enjoyed. The Park Department maintains these areas to the extent of daily planning where necessary, keeping all dangerous spots posted and enclosed by roping the area off and keeping snow off ponds. (This process is started within an hour after a snowstorm and areas are always ready to use within two hours of the storm.) For the young men for whom ordinary skating offers too little zest, special areas are roped off and natural hockey rinks are formed.

The particular pride of New Haven's winter sports program is the municipal golf course which has a most natural and beautiful setting with a large brook twining in and out among the fairways in the valley of the course. By the construction of a large dam it was possible to make the water area larger and to form a ten-acre lake. A skate house, warming shed and refreshment house have been constructed to accommodate 500 people at one time. Flood lights have been erected so that night skating and hockey may be enjoyed. The house, which is portable, serves as an equipment storage plant in other seasons.

Another branch of winter sports under the supervision of the Park Department is coasting on nine coasting areas. At East Rock Park a beautiful coasting slide is formed on one of the brialle paths.

Duluth an Important Winter Sports Center

Duluth offers facilities for winter play and sports to suit all tastes. Among them are skiing, skating, hockey, curling, tobogganing, snowshoeing, hiking, ice boating snow modeling and dog sled racing. All of these activities are within easy walking distance from the heart of the city.

Over twenty municipal skating rinks are scattered throughout the city, and Duluth also has 2,500 acres of wooded parks with 4,000 acres of city park at its doors which afford fine terrain for skiing, snowshoeing and tobogganing.

Duluth is fortunate in having a natural playground in the heart of the city located in the

upper section of Chester Park. Here the devotee of winter sports will find a very fine field house equipped with rest and lunch rooms, a check room and a large fireplace. Within a stone's throw of the field house are the skating rink, skiing and snowshoe trails, a large ski slide and four 600-foot toboggan slides.

One of the outstanding features of the Duluth winter sports program is the wearing of appropriate winter costumes. These colorful costumes lend a picturesque note to the landscape and are worn during the whole winter by devotees of winter sports.

Winter in Winnipeg's Parks

For the children of school age the Public Park Board of Winnipeg provides twenty-two rinks in various parts of the city located on vacant property or on school grounds placed as near as possible to the most thickly populated sections. The average size of the rinks is 80 by 100 feet. Shelters 30' by 12' are provided with a wood burning heater. Where space permits toboggan slides are erected for the smaller children. These are built about 16 feet high and have an iced runway 200 feet long.

Minneapolis - A Happy Hunting Ground for Winter Sports Devotees

This year the Park Board of Minneapolis is operating fifty-three rinks on lakes and playgrounds, with twenty-seven boarded hockey rinks and sixteen small hockey rinks for boys' practice games. Eight toboggan slides, especially iced and kept in fine condition, are maintained in four of the city's larger parks. Five skiing slides provide ample opportunity for the devotees of this thrilling sport, and sliding hills are available for small folks on the natural hills which abound in the various parks of the city.

A Ski Club in Dubuque, Iowa

Dubuque has a new ski jump with a recently organized ski club to insure its use under the best possible conditions. The club membership is open to all interested in skiing. Dues are \$1.50 per year. This money will be used by the club to supplement the facilities already provided by the city. Use of the ski jump, however, is not conditional upon membership in the club.

NOTE: For much of this material RECREATION is indebted to *Parks and Recreation*, December, 1931.

Ice Skating Rinks



In Ottawa there are two types of rinks. This type has an outside area for general skating.

By E. F. MORGAN
Superintendent of Playgrounds
Ottawa, Canada

OTTAWA, CANADA, is operating twenty outdoor ice rinks this season, eleven of which are for skating only and nine for hockey. Three of the latter, located in neighborhoods where there are not a sufficient number of hockey teams available to justify their being used exclusively for hockey, are used, part time, for skating. Two of the nine skating rinks are one-eighth mile tracks thirty feet wide at which all the speed skating training and competitions are held.

Types of Rinks

There are two different types of skating rinks in operation. These may be termed the "rectangular" of which there are seven and the "oval" of which there are four. The rectangular type varies in size from 200 feet long and 80 to 90 feet

wide, the larger rinks being in localities where the greatest patronage is found. On all of the rectangular types of rinks a snow area about 80 to 90 feet long, 10 feet wide and two feet high, is left in the center of the ice surface. This considerably decreases accidents due to the congregating of loafers in the center of the ice, criss-crossing and tag playing. It also reduces the work necessary to ice making and cleaning. Very little use is made of the center in any case.

The oval types are those that are constructed around the outside of a hockey rink. They are 30 feet wide, all-round, with the inside edge about 10 feet from the boards of the hockey rink. This space is filled in with snow from the hockey rink. The hockey rinks are 180' by 80' and are fenced with four foot portable fencing.

Lighting and Equipment

There are two different types of lighting systems for the rectangular rinks. The common type, which is being gradually discarded here, consists of four or



Courtesy Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Playground Commission

five strings of 100 watt lamps, four or five lamps to the string, across the rink. A rink 200' by 80' requires twenty 100 watt lamps, five lamps to the string. The new type, which we have found more satisfactory and which costs less eventually, consists of two 1,000 watt lamps in Duoflood, or similar reflectors, at the center of each end of the rink, about three feet from the outside edge of the ice surface on thirty foot poles.

The oval rinks, around the hockey rinks, are lighted with six 200 watt Benjamin reflectors installed on the six poles which provide the lighting for the hockey rinks.

Portable dressing room buildings are erected at each center, two buildings at each of the larger skating rinks, (250' by 90'), three at each location where there are combination (oval) skating and hockey rinks and one where there is a hockey or skating rink only. These buildings, single sheet shiplap, are built on 2 by 4 studding with double pitched roof. A partition is erected eight feet from one end of the buildings to provide a check room and storage for coal, hose, shovels, scrapers, etc. Each building is heated by one No. 15 and one No. 10 Quebec heater.

Water services consist of two inch mains, reduced to one inch, with one inch three ply rubber covered hose used for flooding. The general maintenance equipment consists of one large 8' by 4' wide hard wood, iron shod scraper to be drawn by horses for removing heavy snow falls; one steel scraper 4' by 18" for each rink caretaker, one snow shovel for each man (with as many additional as circumstances warrant to equip volunteer snow shovellers); one light wood, two man scraper 6' by 3'; the necessary number of 50 foot lengths of one inch hose for flooding, water pails, coal scuttles and similar equipment.

Administration

The skating hours are from 9 A.M. to 10 P.M., weather conditions permitting. The hours from 6 to 8 P.M. are reserved for children under 14 years of age who must be off the ice by 9 P.M. The two skating rinks that are constructed as eight-lap tracks are reserved for speed skaters from 5 to 7:30 P.M. every evening, and each rink every alternate Saturday afternoon, for competitors from 2 to 5 P.M.

Two men are employed at each single skating rink and hockey rink. Three men are employed

at the oval and skating rink combinations and four men at the two combination hockey and skating rinks, which are eight-lap tracks. (There is more ice surface at the latter two combinations than at the former).

At the time of writing there are 360 teams registered for practice and game hours at the nine hockey rinks. Thirty-six of these are entered in the hockey leagues conducted by the Playgrounds Department, in which there are eight sections from Light Bantams under 85 pounds to Seniors under 150 pounds, all under 18 years of age. As the hockey season does not open until January 1, 1932, it is expected that there will be 400 teams using the rinks this season.

The greatest success is derived from the operation of the playground leagues. The penalty system in force severely punishes deliberate, vicious, fouling and improper language. Sportsmanship is the keynote of all game activities conducted by the Department, and the game is played for the game's sake. Championship teams are the last consideration.

In the Chicago South Park System athletic fields are conditioned for skating. As soon as there are two inches of frost in the ground, or within a few hours after a sudden drop in temperature, men are on every athletic field, sprinkling either bare ground or sod with lawn sprinklers, frequently moved, to provide foundation ice. The best conditions for use of sprinklers obtain when the temperature is between 10 and 15 degrees above zero. One man is assigned to about six sprays to provide for constant change in the spray locations. In this manner a foundation is built up within 24 hours, and after the foundation is laid two men are assigned to each hose to finish off the surface by hand sprinkling. A hose coupling is flattened to provide a nozzle, or into the round end of the hose a fan-shaped block of wood is wedged to fan out the stream. In the judgment of the South Park officials the ice block should be built up to a 3-inch thickness before the area is turned over to the skaters.

With the weather below zero, South Park experience is that the building up of additional ice by the flooding method is difficult, because subsequent layers may not bond with the underlying ice when they freeze as quickly as is the case at such temperatures. From *Parks and Recreation*, January, 1932.

Health Values of Winter Sports

Sunshine, safety and snow
make winter sports a source of
both happiness and health.

Hand in hand with the enjoyment which
winter sports afford go other values.
Of these the health giving properties
of exercise out-of-doors are important.



Courtesy Big Pines Recreation Camp, Los Angeles County

These young sculptors in the spirit of true artists pass judgment on the work of their hands.

EVERY facility to provide outdoor recreation for children should be utilized by municipalities during the winter, the Public Health Service of the United States Government has declared, in stressing the need for abundant sunshine in the development of the growing child.

It is of utmost importance that parents recognize the need of outdoor play in winter when short days limit the amount of sunshine and that municipal authorities provide areas where children may coast or skate in safety. The Service recommends that as many hilly streets as are necessary for the use of children be closed to automobile traffic when there is sufficient snow for coasting. Such measures will protect the motorist from slippery grades and confine the children to safe areas, thus reducing accidents to the minimum. Additional information was made available as follows:

The importance of sunshine in child development cannot be too strongly emphasized in our present mode of life. Especially in the cities, where an ever increasing number of families live in apartment buildings and where the movement

of traffic renders our streets unsafe for recreation, opportunities for outdoor play become more and more limited.

In winter when sunshine is as necessary as at other seasons, the situation becomes even more difficult. Besides the shorter days, weather conditions tend to discourage pleasure driving and the number of outdoor games which can be played at this season is fewer. In addition, modern machinery makes short work of snow covered streets and traffic demands make fewer streets available for recreation.

It is for this reason that no effort should be spared in providing suitable and safe areas for recreation. Every community should survey the facilities in its environs to determine what grounds can be set aside for playgrounds.

Where ample facilities other than the streets are available it may be more desirable to keep the children off the pavements. In some communities the permanent playgrounds have been utilized for winter sports by the construction of slides or skating surfaces. Where the playground area is

(Continued on page 639)



Courtesy General Electric Company

At the hockey rink at Union College a system of floodlighting has been effectively used.

Lighting for Outdoor Winter Sports

It is a proven fact that the greatest recreational value comes from outdoor play, indulged in continually throughout the year. In northern climates this play program naturally involves winter outdoor sports. Such is our modern workaday schedule that only during the evening or after dark hours can many of the adult folks in our communities take part in these outdoor winter recreations. Just at this point modern illumination comes to their aid.

No doubt the most common winter sport—and one very easily taken care of by the lighting engineer—is ice skating. Municipal park lakes and ponds, flooded tennis court space and other similar areas are admirably suited to this sport. Such areas can be effectively and inexpensively illuminated by means of a few suitable floodlights, of preferably 1,000 watt capacity with diffusing lenses, mounted some 25 to 30 feet high upon poles adjacent to the skating area. A total floodlighting load of from 1/20 to 1/30 watt per square foot of objective area usually proves

By W. D'A. RYAN
General Electric Company

adequate for ice skating. Color may be readily introduced for special occasions by using colored lenses or inserts with such floodlights.

Ice hockey, as the competitive phase of skating, is becoming exceedingly popular in many sections. The construction and maintenance of the average outdoor rink need not be an expensive procedure. In fact, such rinks are sometimes built over tennis courts, thereby utilizing the floodlighting system for these two sports. A higher intensity of well diffused illumination is needed for satisfactory hockey play. Although floodlights were employed in lighting the Union College hockey rink shown in the picture, yet the use of overhead, span-wire—suspended reflectors presents another effective method of illuminating such areas.

Tobogganing constitutes another form of winter recreation, and these slides are in no way difficult nor expensive to illuminate. At more exclusive winter resorts a fee may be charged for this sport, the lighting of such slides will be likely

(Continued on page 639)



"The Heart of a Clown"—a play which is frequently given by recreation groups in their drama programs.

An Experiment in Drama

By W. D. CHAMPLIN

OUR experiment in drama, conducted so successfully last year, was carried on mainly as a demonstration of its need and practicability from a strictly recreational point of view. It was restricted to the fundamentals of organization, training and production in the fifteen centers maintained by the Bureau of Recreation which has buildings and auditoriums equipped with stages or gymnasiums in which temporary stages could be set up. It was limited also to the indoor period of eight months, from October to June.

The program conducted has resulted in the organization of the Recreation Dramatic League composed of the principals and dramatic directors of the center for the purpose of conference and study. The Recreation Center Players was formed

William D. Champlin, Chief of the Bureau of Recreation, Philadelphia, tells how Elizabeth Hines Hanley, drama specialist on the staff of the Philadelphia Playgrounds Association, developed drama in connection with the recreation centers maintained by the Bureau. Mr. Champlin is enthusiastic over the success of the experiment in his city and wants to see it extended still further.

from the same group for the purpose of learning the technique of acting and play production by the practical method of participation in performances as actors and stage workers. Clubs and groups have also been organized in the centers, the members ranging in age from eight to twenty-five, and these members participated in seventy-eight plays. Eleven hundred players took part as members of the casts, while thousands of people enjoyed the performances as spectators. Some of the Christmas plays were repeated three times in order to accommodate the large number of children and parents wishing to see them.

A retaining institute for dramatic directors and others interested in play production was held bimonthly on Saturday morning from ten to twelve o'clock. The attendance was nearly always up to the total enrollment of thirty-two, and frequently over that. As the method of training was that of "learning by doing," a number of plays of different types were cast for rehearsal and informal presentation, with

(Continued on page 640)

A Washington Party

A February 22nd party which will take us back to the 18th century with its "elegance and courtesy."

EACH of our holiday parties has a distinct traditional flavor that helps the hostess plan her evening and brings the guests together in the spirit of anticipation that is so necessary to every successful social event. The Washington birthday party has a tradition of charm. It is the time to get out powdered wigs, sew fresh ribbons on the panniered gowns, re-gild the buckles on the satin breeches, and step back into the leisurely old days when elegance and courtesy held sway. In the hands of a skillful leader the party may be a festival of Colonial America in which sentiment and charm mingle with gayety. To accomplish this, the guests should come in costume. These costumes need not be expensive. Many of the pattern companies publish patterns for fancy dress occasions and these nearly always include Colonial costumes.

The master of ceremonies is an important personage in all the accounts of Colonial parties that have been left us. He introduced the guests, organized the contests, and kept everyone in good spirits. There is a story of a Philadelphia colonel who always acted as master of ceremonies and took his position so seriously that he was once heard to reprimand a young lady who forgot her turn in a country dance. "Give over, Miss," he called loudly, "Take care what you are about! Do you think you came here for your pleasure?"

Guests attending smart parties given during the winter months in New York in the eighteenth century arrived in sleighs which, one narrator tells us, "fly with great swiftness and some are so furious that they turn out for none except loaded carts." Dancing was the chief diversion, we are told, but there was also a good deal of card playing and another writer records that he "played button to get prawns for redemption," an amusing description of our "Button, Button." Back-

gammon was in high favor and the family possessing the game may be sure that they are celebrating in the best tradition.

What the Washingtons were wholly in accord with the sociability of their time is shown in a note that George Washington penned in 1796 to the gentlemen of Alexandria when he and his wife found themselves too advanced in years to attend the assembly. "Alas! our dancing days are no more. We wish, however, for all who have a relish for so innocent and agreeable an amusement, all the pleasure the season will afford."

We may take this kindly wish for ourselves and when the time comes for celebrating the birthday of the father of our country, let us put on our old-fashioned dresses and make the most of "all the pleasure the season will afford."

The Invitations

You may wish to invite your guests in the manner of one Colonial gentleman addressing another. The following invitation would be an appropriate one:

My dear

I hope to have the honor of your presence at a rout to be held at my home on the evening of February 22nd. I shall be pleased to have you as my guest on this merry occasion and shall be grieved if any mischance arise to prevent your appearance at the festivities.

With felicitations and respects to yourself and your lady, I have the honor to be,

Your devoted servant,

February .., 17..

The following simple announcement printed on a card decorated with Colonial silhouettes would be attractive:

Please come
To my home
On February 22nd
At o'clock
To help celebrate
George Washington's birthday
In the manner of Old Virginia.

Charm and gayety mingle in
a festival of colonial days.



Courtesy George Washington Bi-centennial Commission

Delightful traditions cluster about the
period in which George Washington lived.

Or the following verse might be used:

A belle's a belle, a beau's a beau
No matter what the year—
Whether they go in powdered wig
Or fashion's latest gear.
Pray don't be loathe to hide your charms
In clothes of other days—
The belles of old Virginia
Might show us cards and spades!
So put the quaint old costumes on
And join us at our party.
With old colonial pastimes
We'll make an evening hearty!

The Decorations

Gather together as many candelabras or candlesticks as are obtainable and put red, white and blue candles in them. Place them with a thought to the safety of the guests and, if possible, use no other light. Arrange red and white carnations in blue or crystal or pewter bowls. If it is practical, have the room simply furnished with several mirrors to reflect the candle light and the costumes.

The Party

As the guests assemble they are asked to take small folded pieces of paper from baskets, "billets, folded up containing each a number," as some gentleman of colonial times described them. The ladies take their billets from one basket, the gentlemen from another, as they have corresponding numbers which enable them to find partners for the grand march. Each note contains a question in addition to the number. The questions may be related to the colonial period or not as the hostess wishes. When the entire party has assembled, the ladies take places on one side of the room, the gentlemen on the other. The master of ceremonies calls a number. The lady and gentleman having the number come forward and are introduced. The first couple called lead the grand march. Several other couples are introduced just for the sake of repeating an old custom. After that the partners find each other. They fall in line and the march begins. Marches and other authentic colonial music can be found in "Music from the Days of George Washington," which can be obtained from the United States Commission for the Celebration of the

Two Hundredth Anniversary of the Birth of George Washington, Washington Building, Washington, D. C. The march should end in a circle. The ladies step to the inside of the circle and face clock-wise. The gentlemen stand on the outside of the circle facing counter-clock-wise. Then a march begins and the two circles start to move. The music suddenly stops and the lady must ask the gentleman who has stopped opposite her the question on her slip. They are allowed a few seconds to talk, and then the music begins and they move on until the next pause when the gentleman asks his question of the lady opposite whom he finds himself. Repeat as often as desired.

If the party is a large one, it is suggested that the guests be divided into groups for the games. Even in the case of a small party this gives everyone a chance to have something to do most of the time. The division may be made by distributing equal numbers of red, white and blue ribbons to the guests during the grand march. If desired, artificial flowers or boutonnieres may be used in place of ribbons.

Games

Do You Remember? The guests are given pieces of paper and pencils and allowed five minutes to write the names of as many revolutionary generals as they can remember. They are then asked to write the names of the thirteen original colonies. Three minutes are allowed for this. Following this they are asked to make as many words out of the name Washington as they can. Then scores are counted and the person scoring highest is given a small box of candy tied with red, white and blue ribbons.

Yorktown Relay. Lines form with a small table or chair about eight feet from the head of each line. A vase or flag holder in which a small Union Jack is placed is on the table. Beside it is an American flag. The leader is given a sword cut from cardboard and gilded with radiator paint. At a signal he goes to the table, takes the British flag out of the holder, inserts the American flag, salutes it, and

hands his sword to the next man as he takes his place at the rear of the line. An assistant stands beside the flag to put the British flag up again each time it is taken down. As many lines as desired may be formed for this relay. The losing groups must each perform a military drill before the winners, who are entitled to criticise them severely.

Beaux' Conquest. Couples stand in a circle, facing out. An extra man goes around with a glove which he throws at the feet of one of the men. The man must pick up the glove, start running in the opposite direction and attempt to get back to his place before his rival can reach it, thus winning a partner for himself. The man who fails to reach the lady's side before the other, must take the glove and repeat the game until he is able to win a partner.

Liberty Bells. Small silver bells are distributed among the guests and each is given a slip of paper on which is written a question pertaining to the Revolutionary period. The guests circulate around trying to answer each other's questions. Every time a question is answered correctly (the answer must be written on the back of the slip) the answerer collects a bell from the person asking the question. The gentleman or lady having the largest collection of bells is given a prize. If it is a lady, a paper fan would be appropriate. If a gentleman, the hostess might give him a snuff box made by covering a match box with silver radiator paint and labelling it "snuff."

Revolutionary Tea. What did the Colonial dames serve for tea? The guests are asked to answer this question by examining a row of tea cups in which various pungent food stuffs have been put. Each cup is covered with a small waxed paper, perforated. The cups contain cinnamon, sage, licorice, celery leaves, apple parings, bay leaves and any other odorous herbs. Each cup bears a number and the guests write their decisions on cards which have numbers corresponding to the cups.

Philadelphia Flirtations. Chairs are placed in a circle and the ladies are

For use in connection with the George Washington Bicentennial celebration, the Community Drama Service of the National Recreation Association has prepared, in addition to this party, a play entitled "In the Hearts of His Countrymen," which follows Washington through his boyhood and his career as general and president. This play and other material appropriate for use during the Bicentennial may be secured at little expense from the N. R. A.

seated, leaving one chair unoccupied. The gentlemen stand behind the chairs. The man having the empty chair tries to attract a lady to his chair by a flirt of his handkerchief, a nod or a discreet wink. The lady attempts to leave her chair and the gentleman standing behind her attempts to prevent her. If she can escape, her former partner goes on with the game.

Washington Curtsy. Three men are placed about ten feet apart, forming a triangle. A tricornered hat is placed on one of the men and he is named "Washington." A girl is placed in the center of the triangle, blindfolded, turned about three times and told to advance eight steps and curtsy to Washington. The girl who succeeds in doing this is rewarded with an old fashioned nosegay.

Silhouettes. A sheet and strong light are arranged for shadows. A life-size silhouette of Washington is cut from black paper and hung on the outside of the sheet. The men are asked to go behind the sheet and cast their profiles in shadow. If the guests are not in costume, the hostess should provide a wig. The man whose profile bears the closest resemblance to Washington wins one of the swords that were used in the relay.

The Prettiest Maid. Contests of various sorts were beloved of our forefathers. In the "proposal for festivities on occasion of horse races on St. Andrew's Day" it was suggested that "a pair of handsome shoes be danced for" and "a pair of handsome stockings of one pistole value be given to the handsomest young country maid that appears." So it would not be inappropriate to ask the guests to vote for the prettiest woman present, her costume, of course, being chiefly taken into account. This should be done by secret ballot and a box provided for the votes.

Ballads. A pleasant interlude after the games might be furnished by having a gentleman or lady sing some of the old songs of the day. These may be chosen from the government pamphlet mentioned elsewhere in this bulletin. One of the proposals listed for the St. Andrew's Day festivities read "that a quire of ballads be sung for by a number of songsters, all of them to have liquor sufficient to clear their wind pipes."

The Reel. The Virginia reel, or Sir Roger de Coverly, was a favorite dance in colonial times. The following adaptation of the reel is

simple to do and can be danced very successfully under the direction of a capable master of ceremonies:

Arrange the dancers in parallel lines, the ladies on one side and the gentlemen on the other, facing one another. Everyone dances at once in this version, the lines coming together and partners meeting in the center for the following steps.

1. Lines step to the center, bow and step back to place.
2. Lines step to the center and partners swing around right hands.
3. Lines step to the center and partners swing around left hands.
4. Lines step to the center and Do-Si-Do (Arms folded high. Go around each other and back to place.)
5. The partners opposite each other at the head of the line now lead the figure. Take hands across and slide down between the lines and back.
6. Swing partner with right arms locked.
7. Swing first one of partner's line, left elbows locked.
8. Swing partner — right elbows.
9. Swing second one of partner's line, left elbows locked.
10. Swing partner.

This continues until leaders have swung each one of partner's line. Leaders then dance down center, hands joined, to their places at the heads of their own lines. Each one heads his own line, turns away from center and skips to the place of the last couple in the group. There they join hands, forming a bridge under which all pass with partners. First pair take position of head couple, and the original first couple remain where they formed a bridge, taking position of last couple.

The reel is started from the beginning now, and is continued until all persons have been at the head of the lines. Partners for the reel are found by matching small silhouettes of Martha and George Washington which have been cut in two.

Refreshments

Refreshments seem to have been of a fairly hearty nature in the good old days of early America. Turtle-frolics were held whenever a boat load of the delicacy arrived in New

(Continued on page 640)

A Valentine Party

in 1982

By MARY J. BREEN

National Recreation Association

Old traditions are set aside, and St. Valentine becomes ultra-modern in this delightful party.

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY has always been a day for reminiscing and romancing; a day of old loves, old laces and old charm. But even old things lose their mellowness when dragged too often from their resting places. So on this St. Valentine's Day let us not disturb the ghost of yesterday. Instead, let's swing the pendulum the other way—say fifty years—and celebrate not in the fashion of our grandmothers, as we are accustomed to doing, but rather as our grandchildren might.

Before planning such a celebration it will be necessary to consider the events which modern prophets foretell, some of them very strange indeed! They prophesy that we shall work less and play more; eat vitamins concentrated in sugar coated pills; fly airplanes of our own, or, more precisely, fly our own autogiros. The sages say that with a continuing increase of population there won't be enough names to go around so we'll be tagged with numbers instead. Perhaps this idea seems too far fetched, but then you must remember that even the most conservative prophesies of a century ago which are realities now were laughed at then. If you are still skeptical, make a visit to one of the great department stores in New York City during the Christmas holidays. Here harried clerks respond like automatons, not to names of Mr. Smith or Mr. Jones, but to calls of H-24, S-63, etc. So it seems that whether we like it or not, the future is going to rob us of the dignity of family heritage and make the history of the human race look like one big calendar pad.

Invitations to a party as different as this Valentine Party is should warn your guests what to expect so they will not be taken too much by surprise. Some such invitation as the following might be appropriate:

Announcing that I've planned a party
To which you're bid with welcome hearty.

We'll celebrate in a manner gay,
But not, I warn, in the staid old way.

We won't regale old loves and laces,
Instead we'll picture future faces.

The grand occasion?—I didn't say?
You must have guessed—St. Valentine's Day.

The colors of the decorations should be the conventional red and white, for even fifty years from now they will probably symbolize affection and devotion, the approved emotinos for a Valentine Party. Hang cardboard airplanes on the walls and from the lights. From the ceiling suspend a miniature airplane out of which float cardboard hearts attached to red ribbon streamers. In one corner of the room place a booth, trimmed in red and white crepe paper. In the center, just below the corner, paste a large cardboard airplane decorated with hearts. Above the center hang a sign. "Cupid's Registration Bureau."

Cupid leads the guests to this booth as soon as they arrive. He is a small child dressed in an aviator's costume with a quiver of arrows over his shoulder to identify him. When the guests register, give each lady a number combined with the letter F which stands for female and each man a number with the letter M for male. Men and women with the same number—F-23, M-23—are partners for the evening. Also give each of them fifteen candy hearts. But be sure to

warn them not to eat the hearts for they are to be used in the first game of the evening, a very informal one called:

Games

Valentine Greetings. In this game players try to secure as many hearts as they can. They greet each other with any two letters in this manner: "Hello, C. U." The one addressed must respond immediately with two letters which will finish a word such as "Hello, T. E." If he cannot finish the word with two letters he must give one of his hearts to the person who addressed him. If he doubts that a word of four letters begins with the two letters with which the person greeted him, he may challenge the originator of the word. If he is correct in believing that the other person is "faking," he collects a heart; if not, he surrenders two instead of one. The man and girl getting the greatest number of hearts are declared King and Queen of Hearts for the evening. By way of suggestion the following words are offered: DE-AR, DO-TE, NO-TE, LA-CE, FA-CE, PI-NK, LO-VE, LA-DY.

In 1982. This is a mixer to get everyone acquainted and to tell everyone present what the party is all about. The game is played in a single circle with one person in the center. Everyone sings the entire song. During the verse players march in a circle in time to the music. During the chorus the players stand still while the one in the center selects two people from the circle. On the third and fourth lines of the chorus these three players skip around in their own circle while the people in the outside circle clap hands. If the group is large, the three players remain in the center for the remainder of the game, each selecting two partners for each

chorus. If the crowd is small, two of the three take their places in the circle while the last one chosen remains in the center.

Since all the words to this song will be new, give the players a chance to sing them together before playing the game. Do not spend too much time learning them, however. All know the tune "Yankee Doodle" and can hum it if they cannot sing the words.

I

Oh, nineteen hundred eighty-two
Is fifty years away.
But let's pretend we see tonight
What fashions will hold sway.

II

Oh, cupid still matches hearts
As in the days gone by.
But cupid is an airman now
So courting's done on high.

III

Now everybody has a number
No one owns a name
We spend our life in constant whirl
We ride by airplane.

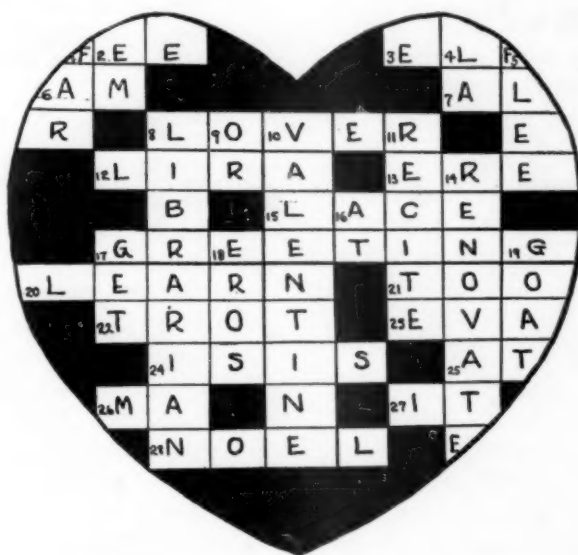
IV

All our food's now served
in pills
To save the housewife
worry
We have more time to play
and dance
And yet the password's
hurry.

CHORUS

Partner, join me in the ring
Neighbor join us too
It's some fun to be around
In nineteen eighty-two.

Heart Match. Cut various sized hearts from different colored paper or cardboard. Then cut them in halves, putting one piece in a box for the gentlemen and the other piece in a box for the ladies. Before the music starts each man selects half a heart from a box. and each girl half a heart from a second box. While the music is being played all



HORIZONTAL

1. charge
3. fairy
6. part of verb to be
7. abbr. for boy's name
8. one who woos
12. Italian coin
13. before (poetical expr.)
15. ornament
17. salutation
20. study
21. also
22. to run
23. girl's name
24. Egyptian goddess
25. in
26. mother (colloquial)
27. pronoun
28. Christmas (French)

VERTICAL

1. distant
2. printer's type
4. note in musical scale
5. run away from
8. one in charge of books
9. conjunction
10. sentimental missive
11. declaim
14. repair
16. in
17. obtain
18. Greek God of Love
19. mammal

march in circle about the room. Suddenly the music stops. The men on the outside of the circle remain standing while the girls move up to the next partner. When the man meets the girl who has the other half of his heart, the two retire from the circle. The marching continues until all have matched hearts.

A Valentine Crossword Puzzle. No doubt fifty years from now people will be referring, perhaps with some derision, to the days when crossword puzzles were in vogue. Although they are not so much the rage now as they were a few years ago, they still manage to hold the attention of a great many people. The puzzle should be mimeographed so that copies can be distributed to each player present.

Aviation. This is a variation of the old-fashioned "Donkey Party," in which the blindfolded players had to attach a donkey's tail in the proper place.

A chart is hung on the wall or door at one end of the room and on it are squares marked "Paris," "Cairo," "Mexico City," and other non-stop destinations. The player who is "It" is blindfolded and given a cardboard cutout to represent a monoplane with his name written on it. He is whirled till dizzy and sent staggering across the room to pin his cardboard airplane onto the chart. The furthest flight wins.

The chart should also contain a few squares marked for places near the point of departure, and all players landing on them should pay a forfeit agreed on beforehand. Two chairs can be placed, one on each side of the approach from the start to the chart. If a player hits either one of these chairs he "crashes" and pays a double penalty.

Skyrocket. For this game the group is divided into two and is lined up one on each side of the room. One of the players in each group is told to go down his line and to tell each player except one to join in shouting "Sis, boom!" but to remain quiet on "Ah!" The leader then announces that the group will send up a skyrocket. At a signal everyone shouts "Sis, boom!" Only one player on each team says "Ah!" Needless to say the effect will be hilarious.

A Romance in 1982. Before the party, typewritten or mimeographed sheets containing the following verses should be prepared. The last word in the second line of each couplet is omitted, however. The papers are distributed and

the players given several minutes to supply the missing words:

F twenty-three was sweet and charming
And had a manner most *alarming*.
Coquettishly she'd flirt while dancing
With swains who found her most *entrancing*.

One after one they begged her hand
But she'd have none in all the *land*.

At last they called her cold as zero
But she said she'd wait for her *hero*.

One day he came, M twenty-nine,
An aviator straight and *fine*.

He saw her once then started wooing,
Within an hour the two were *cooing*.

Within a week the two were married,
Though perhaps they should have *tarried*.

Their honeymoon was no more sane,
They took it in an *airplane*.

Their young friends wished them joy and health,
And happiness and fun and *wealth*.

The wise old folks with fear and awe
Told them of trouble they *foresaw*—

A life begun up in the air
Must surely end in grim *despair*!

But twenty-three and twenty-nine
Defied their fate with love *divine*.

Their airy life they filled with laughter
And they lived happily ever *after*.

Valentine Corsage. For this game you need an old seed catalogue. Before the party, cut out and number about thirty pictures of flowers. Select a gardener from the group. He keeps a slip on which is written the names of the flowers and their corresponding numbers. This is used to check the answers at the end of the game. The pictures of the flowers are passed around and each one present writes down on paper the names of the flowers. The correct names are read off by the gardener. Each picture scores two points. For names that are not wholly correct one point is given. The person with the largest number of points is the winner and is presented with a Valentine corsage of either paper or real flowers.

Flashbacks of 1932

Since no Valentine Party would be complete without some reminder of the past, the following games suggestive of the good old days of 1932 or thereabouts are suggested:

Air Pocket. For this game chairs are arranged in a circle. There is one chair less than the number of people playing. Chairs are far enough apart to allow the players to march between

(Continued on page 637)



San Francisco Playground Commission

If you are equipping a community center you will find a pool table almost indispensable.

The Organization of a Community Center

The story of a community center which is successful because it is a part of neighborhood life.

By JACOB W. FELDMAN

Recreation Department
Board of Education, Newark, New Jersey

THE Central Avenue Community Center of Newark, New Jersey, has just passed through a splendid year—a year which meant joy and pleasure for all who participated in the program in any capacity. As the groups come back for the new season they are voicing this feeling by such expressions as, “It is good to be back again” or “It feels like coming home.” Practically every group that used the center last year is returning this season, and its reputation has become so widespread that many new groups are joining it.

The History of the Center

The Central Avenue Community Center is located at the Central Avenue school, an old building constructed in 1876, before the question of the use of school buildings for recreational purposes had arisen. No thought was given at the time to the grouping together of the facilities which the Recreation Department would use most. As a result, the facilities are scattered throughout the building from top to bottom, from one side to the other.

The center was opened on November 1, 1930, and when the winter season closed in May, 1931, there were forty-four different groups using the center as a meeting place. Because of the scope of the program offered the center had become an integral part of the community in a period of seven months.

The center is located about one mile from the center of the business district of Newark on one of the city's main thoroughfares. In its immediate vicinity there are small business houses and a number of factories. The houses in which the people live are rather poor. There are a great many different nationalities represented among the members of the center, the prevailing races being the Italian and Negro, with a sprinkling of Greek, Polish, Irish, English and other nationalities.

The economic condition of the people in the district is not good. The Board of Education report telling of the amount of money collected and distributed in the various schools for relief purposes shows that the Central Avenue center is second in the amount of money disbursed.

The center is open on two nights a week, Tuesdays and Fridays, until eleven o'clock. On the other nights it is open until nine unless there is some special event taking place. A playground is run in connection with the center, which is open every day from three to nine P. M.

The staff at the Central Avenue center consists of three workers, one of whom leaves at nine every night, the other two remaining until eleven on Tuesday and Friday nights. With this small staff the question of how to protect the center property is a very important one. There seemed to be two possible solutions: (1) to try to police the building, and (2) to put the responsibility of safeguarding the property on the shoulders of the people who use it. We decided upon the second method, and members of the center have proven themselves worthy of the trust. Some evenings there are as many as fifteen or sixteen groups present with a membership of about 250. In spite of these large numbers no material damage has been done to the building. This is a record of which the center is indeed proud, proving that if people are trusted and given responsibility they will respond to that trust.

A demonstration of the effectiveness of the plan of placing responsibility came at Christmas. About two weeks before the holidays the teachers and pupils began to decorate their rooms for Christmas. During the entire period that the decorations, which were fragile and easily broken, were in the rooms, all of the community center groups met as usual and conducted their activities without doing any harm to the decorations.

Club Organization

We have found that the organization of activities on a club basis has helped greatly in the

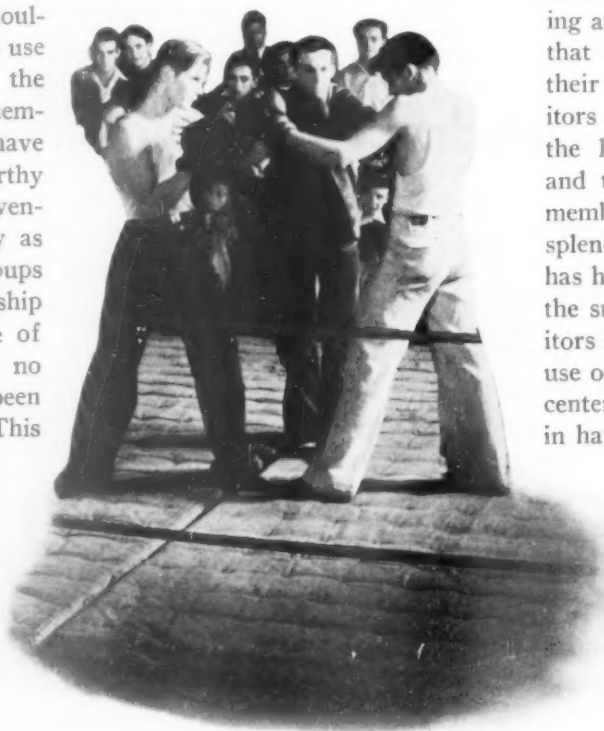
problem of discipline. It is a much simpler matter from a point of view of center administration to develop group responsibility than individual, for a club, in order to maintain a clean record, will be careful to see that the individual members live up to the standards set. If a rule is broken the problem is put up to the club which may take the punishment as a group or make the guilty individual assume the responsibility. The clubs, we have found, inflict a more severe punishment than would the school officials.

There are very few rules of conduct that the clubs are asked to observe; the fewer the rules, the more responsibility the club has to assume.

Each club looks upon the building as its club house and realizes that if the facilities are abused their use will be prohibited. Visitors are greatly impressed by the high standard of behavior and the courtesy shown by the members to their group. The splendid conduct of the people has helped us greatly in securing the support of teachers and janitors and reconciling them to the use of the center's facilities. The center has been very fortunate in having in the principal of the building, Mr. Benjamin C. Miner, a firm supporter whose cooperation at all times has been of the greatest assistance.

Each club has one or two predominating interests in which all the members share. Individual members, however, have other

interests which the club does not satisfy, and accordingly the center has developed certain activities with a general appeal which draw members from all the clubs. These include glee clubs, choruses and social dancing. This type of activity has had the effect of developing loyalty to the center and making the members feel they belong to something bigger than their particular club. It also creates a feeling of comradeship among the clubs.



The San Francisco Playground Commission is promoting boxing in some of its community centers.

Through developing the larger units of activity the center is reaching the point where it will be developed the center is able to put on a program given by the members at least once every two weeks. Because of the variety of activities developed the center is able to put on a program of almost any kind at a moment's notice.

In developing a program of club and center-wide interest it has been necessary to schedule all activities so that there would be no conflict of interests. The schedule has worked out very successfully. No center-wide activity is scheduled on Tuesday and Friday nights because these are the meeting nights of the individual clubs, and as far as possible nothing is allowed to interfere with the club meetings. Clubs are assigned the same room throughout the year, and this gives them a feeling of having a permanent home.

Council Organization

In our city the program is developed as a neighborhood program. No hard and fast program is issued from the central office, but each center must develop a program that will best serve its community. To find out what these needs are a community council is formed consisting of local leaders. This council is a most important factor in the success of the center. The members of the Central Avenue Center Council have devoted time and money to developing the program. Its members serve as volunteer leaders for some of the groups, and through them we have been able to recruit other volunteer leaders. This is very important in view of the fact that most of our activities are conducted by volunteers.

The council is the advisory body, meeting monthly with the director and assistant director to discuss the problems of the center. Every activity that the Central Avenue Council has advised placing on the program has been successful.

It was decided by the council that no activity would be started unless an individual or a group expressed a desire for it. The activity would then be built around this individual or group. This policy has been followed in developing the

program at the center and it has been tremendously encouraging to see the high types of activities for which the people have asked. They have all been worth while; all of them would bring credit to any community.

Activities

One of the first activities started was a symphony orchestra. Two of our members, a young Italian barber and an Irish policeman, both enormously interested in music, had previously attempted to form an orchestra but lacking a place for rehearsals they had abandoned the effort. The center offered its facilities, a leader volunteered his services, and the orchestra is now meeting every Friday night.

Last year there were two jazz bands meeting every week at the center whose rehearsals frequently lasted three hours, so greatly did the members enjoy playing. For the younger children we had harmonica bands and ukulele clubs meeting every week.

The crowning event in the center's musical program last season was a music festival in which twelve of the church choirs of Newark participated. The spirit shown by the participants and the audience at this festival was remarkable. There was no spirit of rivalry evident; each group listened to all the others with the greatest courtesy and the singing was of a high type.

This year the music program will be greatly enlarged. The success of the first year's program made it possible to enlist the interest of the Newark Music Foundation with the result that this year there will be a paid director for the symphony orchestra.

A young men's glee club, meeting weekly, has been organized under the leadership of a trained musician and a chorus of mixed voices which is specializing in the singing of spirituals. These groups will all give concerts in the school auditorium which, it is hoped, will increase the appreciation of music in the neighborhood and create the desire on the part of others to participate in some form of music.

In drama the center has made great strides. Last year there

The part which community centers can play in neighborhood life; the share which neighborhood people themselves may have in determining policies and planning activities are considerations of primary importance to school and recreation officials in their program for the use of schools as community centers. Today these centers are taxed to their capacity; in many cities volunteers are being recruited as leaders. And the recreation movement faces the challenge of filling with constructive morale-building activity, the millions of idle hours which the present situation has brought into being.

Are your centers meeting the test?

was only one dramatic group which during the season gave a three-act play. This year there are three adult groups which will give six or seven plays during the season. The other clubs will give some form of dramatic production during the season, either alone or in combination with other clubs.

There is a very active Home Nursing and Hygiene Club which meets weekly under the leadership of a graduate nurse who volunteers her services. Last year this group, which is interested in health education, arranged for a lecture given by a representative of the State Department of Health, attended by about 350 people. This year the club has arranged for a series of three similar lectures. The group consists of middle-aged colored women most of whom work during the day and whose meetings consequently do not often begin before nine o'clock.

Experienced dressmakers volunteer their services to the sewing circle whose members learn to make their own clothes and those of their children. Very often these leaders donated cloth when they knew the members could not provide it and needed the clothes.

The debating club, composed of Negroes, last season gave a public debate. One of the jazz bands made up of Italians played at the debate. This was the first occasion in the history of the center that these two races combined for a joint event.

In the manual training classes all types of woodworking projects were conducted. Last year the Art Club did some interesting and surprisingly good work in clay modeling, linoleum block printing, plaster of Paris and drawing. A Boy Scout and a Girl Scout troop have been organized, which are functioning very well.

Volunteers from the Newark Normal School are in charge of the story telling groups.

Members of the center issue each month a magazine of twelve pages of mimeographed news on activities. Each cover is a linoleum block print made by some member of the center from an original drawing contributed by another member.

Last year the gymnasium program was very limited as the center could have the use of the gymnasium only one night a week. This year the center will have exclusive use of the gymnasium and each club will be given a three-quarter of an hour period. A boxing and wrestling club has been organized and an industrial basketball league of fourteen has opened its season. There

is one open gymnasium class for young men who do not belong to any club, and one night is set aside for women's activities. In all, twenty different groups use the gymnasium.

Social clubs flourish at the Central Avenue Community Center. We have ten such clubs for young men and four for young women, all self-governing. Five of the groups have social dancing on Saturday nights, exceedingly well conducted affairs. This year there will be about twelve such dances. Last year a social dancing club for young men and women was a great success. This club met once a week for an hour. A similar club will be organized this year. Several of the clubs arranged all day outings and suppers in the nearby country.

One activity has led to another as the people have expressed a desire for new clubs. Their pleasure in participation is reflected in the way in which they are returning this year. At the present time sixty-five organized groups are meeting regularly at the center.

One Day's Schedule

The variety of groups using the center on one day will show something of the scope of the program:

MONDAY

Jolly Good Timers. Colored girls. 12-14 years. Social club with a volunteer leader. Meets from 3:30 to 4:30 P. M.

Blue Jays. Mixed colored and Italian girls. Age 10-12. Handcraft, mostly sewing. Meets from 3:30 to 4:30 P. M.

Social Dancing Club. Italian girls. Age 14-16. Meets from 4:15 to 5:00 P. M.

Boy's Handcraft Club. Colored and white. Age 10-12. All types of handcraft, wood, paper and painting. Meets from 3:30 to 4:45 P. M.

Social Dancing. Young men (white). Age 16-24. Paid leader. Meets from 7:30 to 9:00 P. M.

Editorial Staff. "The Centralia"—monthly magazine. Staff meets twice a month. The magazine is a mimeographed publication consisting of from twelve to fifteen pages. The cover is a linoleum block print made by a member of the center from an original drawing also made by a member of the center. The staff is selected from the different clubs. Each club appoints a reporter who writes up the doings of the club. The editorial and reportorial staff does all the work connected with the Centralia.

Night Hawks. Colored boys. Age 12-15. Athletic. Meets from 7:30 to 8:30 P. M. Has as adviser a colored boy from one of the older clubs. Gymnasium from 3:30 to 4:30 P. M.

Kraven. Italian girls. Age 12-15. Social. Meets from 7:30 to 8:30 P. M.

Junior Order Sons of Italy. One group from this organization is interested in gymnasium work and comes in from 8:20 to 9:20 P. M. Other members are interested in dramatics and are rehearsing a play in Italian that they will give at the center. They furnish their own leadership.

Beaver Athletic Club. Colored. Age 12-15. Athletic. Meets from 7:30 to 8:30 P. M. Gymnasium Wednesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 P. M.

White Eagles. Italian boys. Age 12-15. Volunteer leader. Meets from 7:30 to 8:30 P. M. Gymnasium Saturdays from 3:30 to 4:30 P. M.

Girls' Gym. Girls playing volley and dodge ball from 3:30 to 4:30 P. M.

Boxing. Open to anyone over 16 years of age. A member of one of the older clubs, who is a professional trainer, has volunteered his services to lead this group. Meets from 7:20 to 8:20 P. M.

Open Gym. Open to anyone over 16. Participants may do what they please as far as the type of exercise is concerned. Meets from 7:20 to 8:20 P. M.

Delta Phi Alpha. Italian young women who have invited some young men to help them produce plays. High school and college graduates.

Future Plans

We labor under a number of handicaps in developing our program. The school has so large an enrollment of day pupils that there is not a single vacant room which can be set aside for use as a club room furnished and decorated with the articles which members of the group are making. The facilities are scattered throughout the building, causing a waste in light and heat and making supervision more difficult. The staff has no office and no place which it can call its own.

All of these problems are being solved in the new school buildings which have recently been

erected in Newark and in which a very flexible arrangement has been worked out. The facilities that are used most prominently are grouped on the first floor and can be opened as a unit. Those that are next in demand are on the second floor and these, too, are opened as a unit. The building is so arranged that opening one unit does not permit of access to the remainder of the building.

On the first floor of our new building there will be a recreation room the same size as the gymnasium but with a lower ceiling. This room will have a movable stage which will be used for club plays. Other facilities include a combination library and quiet game room, a "rough house" room, girls' and boys' shower rooms, two play courts, a fully equipped kitchen adjacent to the recreation room and a center office. These facilities will be opened as one unit.

On the second floor there will be an auditorium, gymnasium, kitchen, manual training shop, drawing room, kindergarten, a Binet test room with benches (no fixed seats), a nurse's office and the principal's office. The building has been designed so that this unit can be opened for use and still be separated from the first floor and the floors above it.

Any recreation worker who has conducted a community center in the old type of school can easily see what a step in advance such an arrangement of facilities represents. Such a center can be directed much more smoothly and efficiently than a center in the old type of school. But experience has shown that even an old building may be made to serve the recreational life of a community.

Leisure a Moral Test

"We are not entirely certain of the ultimate hours and days of labor that will prove desirable for man. We are faced with something which only a short time ago we vainly sought and prayed that we might enjoy—and that is, greater leisure. It would appear that the tendency through recent years has been toward general reduction of the hours of labor, such as in the steel industry, where during the past ten years the hours have been reduced from twelve to eight. These changes follow, not upon an effort or agitation to bring them about but rather upon necessities like the one in which we now find ourselves. In this present situation the hours of labor and the day of labor are lost sight of in the formula to distribute

among those who are customarily employed in a particular establishment the work for which there are orders.

"But it may be inferred that we face a condition in which generally in the community there will be more leisure. The question before us next will be: How shall that leisure be employed? We are confronted in this nation and in others with a testing period. The moral fiber of the community must either stand the strain of temptation accompanying greater leisure, or use it in such cultural ways as to reinvigorate the individual, to expand his life in many new directions. Failing this, some believe, we must slip into the depths of despair and eventual disintegration."—Myron C. Taylor, in the *New York Times*.

The Story of a Playground

By EMILY BRIGHT BURNHAM

How a "dump that the city has for little children to play in" was transformed into a playground.

CHARTER STREET in the North End can be found only accidentally. Directions are legion. The winding lanes of early Boston now built up closely with high tenements present an uncharted sea to the uninited. If it rains and is February, twilight comes at two o'clock in the afternoon, just as dusk falls early in the mountains. But suddenly in this maze of narrow, crooked streets and crowded dwellings comes the light of day. On the right, as one follows through an alley, can be seen this oasis of light, an L-shaped vacant lot left by the removal of some ill-fated houses. In February, 1930, it was an oasis marred by debris and cellar holes partially filled with trash, offering an invitation for further contributions of garbage, bricks and old iron.

When it rains and is winter, not many children can be found playing here, especially during school hours. But in answer to our query of "Where are we?" the prompt reply of small children comes in chorus, "On our playground," with the correction from a precise-minded six-year-old sister, "It's a dump that the city has for us children to play in." This is Foster near Commercial Street and here were once homes that were built around a past Foster Court and Foster Place.

When it isn't raining and it is possible to look "toward that inverted bowl we call the sky," innumerable windows shine down from the red brick walls on this open space or "dump that the city has for little children to play in." "Someone must be back of those windows," argued the two social workers wandering in the rain. "They each represent a family, and what is more, there are but few families in the North End tenements without children." A casual count gives two hundred and ten windows that overlook this dump. From each window mothers can peep out directly on this play space for children and call them to dinner or watch them at their games. Here are little children playing every day on a rough uncared for spot; but what about the mothers upstairs whose fingers must be responsible for the snowy white laundry that waves from corner to corner?

Dear Mayor Curly:

We want the playground for us because too many boys and girls get killed crossing the street we want the playground on Foster Street one of my brother's got killed and one of our companions named John Schiappa got struck by a truck and he is in hospital and he is better now that is why we want the playground. And we have many little brothers and sisters that cannot cross the street the way to the park. We would like to have them play in the playground you are going to give us.

Sincerely yours,
THE COMMITTEE

Michael Covelluzzi (Age 12)
Anthony Grande (Age 9)
John Schiappa (Age 12)
William Ventola (Age 10)
Gaetano Leo (Age 11)

The two social workers decided to interview these mothers and make an informal survey. Up and around the alley and into tenements, then up and down innumerable flights of stairs; they repeated this process all day long Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Saturday. Three mothers, when asked where their children played, said: "We never let them out of the house except when we take them to school. The dump is rough and the North End Beach is not for small children as they would have to cross Commercial Street through the traffic." During the summer months an officer guides them, but all the rest of the year this special protection is denied. Some mothers on

Henchman Street find peace for their harassed souls by putting their little ones at the bottom of the light shafts. These areaways give ten square feet with four brick walls rising four or five stories. The air at the bottom is necessarily dank and out of reach of any sunlight the year around. It is like putting a baby to play in a big fireplace and letting him get his fresh air, sunshine and outlook on life up the chimney.

All doors in the tenements were open to visitors, and always there followed a long retinue of children—"Are we going to have a playground tomorrow?" "Please, we want the playground," and "Can our fathers have a job working on it?" Here in this little dirty valley between these heights of tenement homes was land measuring a little less than 5,000 square feet for sale for not many more dollars, waiting to be taken over by the city and reconditioned at approximately \$5,000. Almost too small to be considered, yet it had held eight residence buildings in the past and was likely to be built on again. The alternative was a play space for more than 150 children under twelve years of age who live in the immediately overlooking tenements. At least fifty mothers every day could have a place to "park" their children under school age for a few hours of sunshine and fresh air. This little space would be their back yard and front yard, their front porch and back porch, their all of out-of-doors and sunshine.

Each visit to the spot brought additional children voicing the same song, "When do we get the playground?" The social workers began to wish they were Pied Pipers who could lure the children to this dump changed overnight by magic (and by the city officials) into a real playground. The enthusiastic and enterprising youngsters who acted as interpreters on the informal survey, decided to draw up a petition to the Mayor and proceeded to do so. It was signed by more than one hundred children who were allowed to take up their own petition to Mayor Curley, who promptly promised his support provided the property in question could be purchased for its tax value. This interview occurred May 27, 1930.

By this time the whole neighborhood was agog and the patriotism and civic interest of the owners was such that they immediately signed written

agreements to sell the land for \$5,000, \$1,400 less than the assessed value. One of the owners refused an offer from an industrial firm which was \$500 more than the tax value and sold it to the city for \$500 less than this value. But such unprecedented generosity resulted only in six months' delay at City Hall. How could a city buy land for less than it was taxed? Why should the land be offered to the city at less than the assessed value? It was too unusual a proceeding! It took until August 11, 1930, for City Hall to reduce the tax rate and until November 7, 1930, to make sure nothing extra would be collected by those selling the land. On that date Mayor Curley signed the final papers and the Foster Street dump became city property. Resurfacing with cement in November was considered not practicable. So when Christmas came, it was a sad little playground and the children were greatly discouraged.

Then came rumors of a Community Christmas Tree. Five dollars was contributed to buy the tree, four dollars for tangerines, and the Walter M. Lowney Company contributed 400 bars of chocolates. The electric lights were loaned and returned unbroken at the end of the week. The Foster Associates furnished the electricity, set up and trimmed the tree, organized the carol singing and distributed the gifts.

This was an auspicious beginning of an extensive use of our minute playground. To be sure, the surface was too sloping for seats and too small for swings. It was, however, used during the month of August for a surprising variety of recreations—squash baseball, bean bag and rope skipping contests as well as twenty-five yard relay races, potato races and three-legged races. A costume parade and a doll carriage parade ran up the number of contestants to nearly 2,000. This does not include the children and mothers who came to look on.

Without the untiring effort of three playground instructors sent by the Community Service of Boston for twenty-one days in August the Foster Street playground as a place to play would not have been successful. To them and to the Foster Street Associates, who stored the paraphernalia during the month, is due the gratitude of all who have worked or played on this spot.

Home Building and Home Ownership

Recreation was stressed at the President's Conference on Home Building and Ownership.

"No one lives in a house but in a neighborhood." This statement by Thomas Adams of the Regional Plan of New York truly describes the underlying thought which ran through the various committee reports and discussions at the President's Conference on Home Building and Home Ownership held in Washington December 2nd-5th.

The organization plan of the Conference provided for twenty-five committees with six correlating committees to bring together the different recommendations and findings of the twenty-five committees on the various aspects of home building and home ownership. In the large majority of the committees there was specific reference to recreation—recreation in the home, and recreation in the neighborhood and the whole community.

It is significant that recreation was considered not only by such committees as that on Housing and Community, but also by the Finance and Business committees. The Finance Committee, of which Mr. Frederick H. Ecker, president of the Metropolitan Life



Courtesy Child Study Association.

The Conference called attention to the need for a children's play room or corner in the home.

Insurance Company, was chairman, although concerned primarily with matters of first and second mortgages, found that the neighborhood and its character had a direct relationship to the security of the individual home as a financial investment for insurance companies, savings banks, building and loan associations and other groups financing home ownership. It pointed out the importance of bringing to the attention and knowledge of home

owners the fact that the security of their home ownership depends to a considerable extent upon the efficiency and honesty of the government of their municipality, and also upon its willingness to give reasonable service in respect to schools, parks, playgrounds, streets and other facilities. It stated that it is unwise to adopt a policy of indiscriminate discouragement of public improvements, and that if public improvements are well

"The recreational needs of the community will be met by providing at proper locations convenient of access to the residents such facilities for sport and recreation as country 'reservations,' large parks, small parks, play fields, boys' and girls' outdoor gymnasiums, school playgrounds, children's playgrounds, tennis courts, golf courses, swimming pools, wading pools and skating ponds, as well as play space for small children in individual yards or in several yards thrown together."

conceived and proper they enhance the value of the property and the security of the loan.

The Committee on City Planning referred to the proper provision of playgrounds and other open spaces as necessary, for healthful recreation serves to increase neighborhood values. It reported that some developers of new areas are alive to the necessity of setting aside public open spaces as a means of attracting purchasers to their subdivisions and that this practice is growing and should be further encouraged.

The Committee on Subdivision Layout touched upon this subject more in detail. It stated that everybody grants that parks and playgrounds are essential elements in city building and that no subdivision operation is complete until the subdivider has provided or arranged for adequate park and play areas within or accessible to the lot which he is selling. It emphasized the fact that spaciousness is a primary principle in good subdivision layout and that no subdivider can refuse to recognize that the ultimate success of his development is dependent not alone on fine engineering and architecture but on provision for the spiritual and social requirements of the home owners—factors which, though intangible, are of tremendous consequence.

The several committees working primarily on the construction of the home itself made repeated references to the need for considering the play and recreation needs of the family in home construction planning. The Committee on Standards and Objectives reported that every house should provide some play space as a play room for children with a minimum area of at least 84 square feet per child.

The Committee on Landscape Planning and Planting referred to the need for some outdoor living space, whether terrace, lawn or flower garden, and active play space for children in planning the arrangement of the lot.

The Committee on Household Management pointed out the fact that the management of the home must be planned and that time and strength should be budgeted as well as money so that there may be time for rest and recreation, and that the members of the family should share in such planning.

It was recognized at the Conference that play and recreation are factors not only in the build-

ing of new homes but in the rehabilitation of blighted areas and slums and in the planning of large scale multiple family dwellings, such as large apartment house units. The Committee on Large Scale Operations, in reporting on an analysis made of previous large scale operations in the past, stated that social and community interests have been fostered because they have been found to be good business, and this committee included in its statement of values of large scale operations the fact that they can provide economically facilities such as nursery schools, outdoor and indoor play space under leadership and other community activities for parents and children.

The Conference was primarily a conference on housing. However, full reference to recreation and its values would require a pamphlet of fifty or more pages. Recreation leaders should be greatly encouraged over the acceptance, by all the various business, financial and community interests which were represented on the committee memberships, of the importance of recreation and of adequate recreation opportunities as a normal part of our family and community life.

"Spaciousness is a controlling principle in good land development for American homes. City conditions have robbed most of us of the great satisfactions once derived from the big yards and public commons of even the primitive early village, and now every good citizen is trying to help us regain some of that lost spaciousness. It can be regained in large measure, without undue cost, if subdivisions are planned carefully to that end. Large lots, or lots as large as is economically feasible, are always desirable. The introduction of open spaces is equally important, and they may range from the smallest garden or play areas to huge parks.

"Any tract of land will, by careful design, yield far more spaciousness in effect and in use than thoughtless layout makes possible, and this is good for purchaser and subdivider alike. America is big enough and rich enough to afford at least a decent degree of spaciousness in subdivision planning and if all else is forgotten, this matter should not be forgotten. It is basic and essential to permanently good home building."

The Leisure Problem

By A. BARRATT BROWN

Principal, Ruskin College, Oxford

EDUCATION in all stages—from the school to the University—is too generally viewed as a means to a livelihood and a career, i.e. as an equipment for work; and too seldom viewed as an equipment for leisure. For this reason two forms of education are of peculiar importance—education in the humanities and education in the arts and crafts—the latter of increasing importance if we are to witness the disappearance of the craftsman's skill from the field of industry.

For it is both probable and desirable that what we regard today as hobbies—from handicrafts to allotments, and from philosophy to play production—will become the occupations which engage the major interest and attention of men's lives.

Already in the various branches of the adult education movement there is a growing demand for all kinds of education for leisure—not only in intellectual studies, but in artistic and practical pursuits. This movement, in fact, is no less important than the other wings of the working-class movement, since the organization of leisure is no less important than the organization of labour. As Dean Inge has recently reminded us: "The soul is dyed the colour of its leisure thoughts."

It might seem at first sight that the organization of leisure was a contradiction in terms, since leisure is by definition the time that we spend in our own way and on our own initiative. But just as the play of children loses nothing of its freshness and spontaneity when it is guided in organised games by judicious and unobtrusive suggestion and leadership, so the leisure of adults may gain from the guidance and direction of groups who are not only able to provide the best

facilities for leisure occupations, but also to foster the corporate life and atmosphere which enhance and reinforce individual effort. We must, however, guard against over-organisation. It is possible so to organise people's leisure

that they never have any time to themselves to be really leisurely. Over-organisation here, as elsewhere, defeats its own ends. Many of us are already in danger of losing one of the most valuable features of leisure—the opportunity of mental relaxation, which, as Professor Graham Wallas has reminded us in his *Art of Thought*, affords one of the best conditions for the "incubation" of new ideas, and the inspiration of creative art.

I would suggest that the arrangement and enjoyment of leisure is an art that needs careful thought and preparation. The art of life, indeed, consists largely in the capacity to spend wisely and happily the hours in which we are most free—free from the demands and behests of others, free to plan our own activities in and at our own time. To waste those moments is to waste something extraordinarily precious. One of the most horrible and insensate forms of cruelty is killing time.

Let me not be misunderstood. I am not suggesting that rest and relaxation or recreation (bodily or mental) are a waste of time. There are worse abuses of time than either rest or sport. To name but one, there is idle gossip, which is the very degradation of the art of conversation.

We often speak of the margin of leisure. I am reminded of the wide or narrow margin of a piece of writing on the page of a book. Often there is little or no margin in which to write one's comments or suggestions. But when the margin is wide what do we do with it? Sometimes when

In Utopia work and play, industry and art will have come together; craftsmanship will complete the work of the machine, and the machine the work of craftsmanship; leisure will complete the life of work and work complete the life of leisure

World at Play

Slides of Their Own Make

Salt Lake City, Utah, has three toboggan slides designed by the Municipal Recreation Department according to its own specifications. The slides may be used by sleds and toboggans, and snow or frozen water, or even wax or grease may serve as the sliding medium. During days when snow is inadequate for sleigh riding on the nearby hills, these slides have proved most useful. They were installed primarily for the children in areas removed from the foot-hills which make coasting possible, and they have worked out very successfully. The approximate cost of each slide is \$300. They were built by the local construction crew and may be taken down and stored during the winter months. This type of apparatus has been a great factor in extending the winter use of parks as play areas.

Skating Ponds for Cleveland

The Park Department of Cleveland, Ohio, has made arrangements for twenty-two skating ponds throughout the city. A study is being made of the work program and budget possibilities, as well as of desirable locations for additional ponds, and it is hoped to increase the number. The same approach is being made by the Park Department for the establishment of coasting hills. In conference with a number of skating organizations, the Department has planned an increased skating program. Neighborhood clubs of skaters are being formed and a program of meets and carnivals organized. A hockey league is being planned as an added feature of the skating season.



Municipal Recreation Department, Salt Lake City

Girl Scouts and Winter Sports

The Girl Scouts of Duluth, Minnesota, take full advantage of the facilities for winter sports offered by the Park Department. Each year a Winter Sports Day is held, when Girl Scouts from all over the city arrive carrying skis or snow-shoes or dragging toboggans. The following events are run off: skiing for form and distance; toboggan races; snow-shoe races. There are three classes—girls ten to twelve; twelve to thirteen, and thirteen years and over.

The toboggan course extends over a distance of from 500 to 600 yards. The snow-shoe race is run off in a 25-yard limit, while the skiing events take place over a natural slide about 600 feet in length. A cup is awarded the troop which receives the greatest number of points during the day's competition.

Curling in Madison.—For those not interested in hockey, skiing, ice boat racing, tobogganing, horse races or speed skating, the Recreation Department, Board of Education, of Madison, Wisconsin, has arranged an opportunity for curling. In inaugurating the game the Superintendent of Recreation approached the Service Club, made inquiry regarding the number of Scotchmen belonging to the club and appealed to them for the special stones necessary for the equipment of the game. Nine stones were donated by these men to start the movement in Madison.

The location was the next problem. Cooperation with the University of Wisconsin brought about the use of a sheet of ice between the pillars in back of the football stadium. To shield the participants from the cold winter breezes the rink was enclosed with canvas. The first call for play brought out fourteen men with added numbers from day to day. The attendance the second year made two rinks necessary, while the third year saw the organization of a Curling Club which promoted a four rink curling club building. The club is made up not only of Scotchmen but of men from every nationality in the city who would not take part in more active winter sports.

A League for Winter Sports.—The Southern California Winter Sports League has been organized for the purpose of furthering interest in winter sports and of getting people not only to visit snow playgrounds in the mountains as spectators but also as active participants. Through the efforts of the League the public will be kept informed of snowfall, road condition, and winter sports possibilities.

When Old Timers Get Together.—Every Saturday night the Old Timers' Harmonica Club of Tacoma, Washington, holds a dance, and here each week are to be found about two hundred people, most of them past forty and many of them over sixty years of age. Square dances, two steps, tuxedos, schottisches, waltzes and quadrilles are intermingled. Later there comes an intermission and a buffet supper is served which is included in the low price of admission. The music is provided by the seven members of the Harmonica Club augmented by two violins, one banjo, a guitar and a piano. The club meets every Wednes-

day night for practice and the following Saturday's music is arranged for at that time.

The Old Timers' Harmonica Club was organized by the Recreation Department of the Metropolitan Park District in November, 1930, and now has thirty members. The club has played many times over the radio, at the Old Soldiers' Home and veteran hospitals, and before other groups.

Reviving Ancient Pastimes.—Windsor, Massachusetts, has gone back to the simple forms of sports originated generations ago by country dwelling forefathers, and every Sunday afternoon for two hours or more there are contests in buck-sawing, barrel rolling, rifle shooting, wood chopping, hare and hounds, and other feats of skill, strength and endurance enjoyed by the men of past generations. The scene is Brookvale Farm; the promoters, the Recreation Association. There are always hundreds of participants on hand to cheer the Tigers and Wild Cats as the participants have named themselves. The award to be offered is a good country dinner which the losers will give the winners.

Increased Attendance at Lower Cost.—Visitors to the municipal play and recreation centers in Los Angeles, California, totaled 26,300,408 in 1931—a tremendous expansion over the 1930 total of \$17,969,950. In spite of the greatly increased attendance, through the exercise of rigid economy during the past year the Department of Playground and Recreation with a cut in its revenues, operated a larger number of playgrounds. Whereas in the fiscal year of 1929-1930 it cost the city 5.68 cents every time a child visited a municipal playground, the records of last year showed a per capita expense of 4.81 cents. Five years ago the per capita cost was 7.71 cents. The growth of the city's play and recreation system is shown in the increase in the book value for the system from \$14,234,654 five years ago to \$15,779,503 for the past year. Many new structures are being erected under the provision of unemployment bonds of which \$1,000,000 has been allocated to the Department of Playground and Recreation.

A New Drama Group.—A permanent organization to be known as the Dearborn Institute of Drama was one of the valuable outgrowths of the three-week drama institute held in Dear-

born, Michigan, under the auspices of the Recreation Department. Charles F. Wells, of the staff of the National Recreation Association, conducted the institute.

San Francisco Develops Industrial Recreation.—Through a cooperative arrangement with the Board of Education which is making available a number of school gymnasias, the San Francisco Playround Commission is initiating a greatly enlarged program of industrial recreation. The Commission's new department of industrial recreation has started out with a program for a city-wide basketball tournament. Tentative plans call for a league divided into 145 pounds, A and B divisions which are unlimited. A nominal entrance fee, sufficient only to defray the expenses of referees, awards and incidentals, will be charged. A number of industrial plants have expressed much interest in the plan.

A Valentine Party

(Continued from page 624)

them. While the music is being played the players weave in and out of the circle of chairs. When the music stops, that is, when the plane hits an air pocket, everyone is thrown to a seat except the one player who is unsuccessful in getting a chair. Before the music starts again, another chair is removed. The game continues until only two players and one chair remain. This, of course, is the 1932 version of "Going to Jerusalem."

Pantomimes of 1932

I When Grandma Was a Girl

Grandma is a 1932 flapper dressed in a trailing black dress and a Eugenie hat.

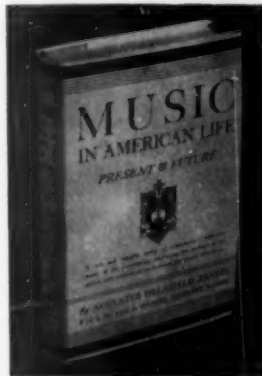
II When Grandma Was a Young Wife

Grandma rushes home from the delicatessen store with many cans and much dried food. She cooks the dinner in a 2 by 4 kitchen.

III When Grandma Was a Mother

Grandma, dressed in a trim little house dress, is chewing gum, reading a book, and pushing the baby carriage back and forth with one foot.

Refreshments. Announce that 1982 refreshments will now be served. Pass around a box of bouillon cubes each tied with a dainty red ribbon. Of course, the guests will be surprised and somewhat nonplussed. Then tell them that you realize that there is nothing like good old-fashioned eats so you've planned a real surprise.



A

Manual

of practical suggestions which will be invaluable to music teachers, recreation leaders, school superintendents, community center and settlement workers, church musical directors, camp directors, and all others interested in any sort of musical endeavor not exclusively professional in purpose.

■ ■ ■ "The thing most needed in the country now is more leaders. There are plenty of places for training musicians but that is not enough. We want musicians trained in the humanities as well; young men and young women who can go out and take their places in communities and help people in one way or another to achieve their own happiness through music. This is, in short, more than a survey; it is a wise and constructive book calculated to be of real service to the cause of music in all its manifold phases. This book shows how this can be done."—Thomas Whitney Surette, Director of Concord School of Music.

■ ■ ■ "Recognizing the validity of beginning with very simple material, it insists throughout that more permanent satisfactions and the deeper joys come from constant growth in the type of material and the adequacy of performance. No one can read this book without being stimulated and guided in his efforts for more and better participation in music."—Peter W. Dykema, Professor of Music Education, Teachers College, Columbia University.

National Recreation Association
315 Fourth Avenue
New York City

Enclosed is my check for \$3.50 for which send me a copy of "MUSIC IN AMERICAN LIFE" by A. D. Zanzig.

Name

Address

Post Paid \$3.65

*"keep the
children off
the streets"*

750

Cities and Towns Have
Adopted it Because it
is

Trouble Proof



Built of Bronze, Brass,
Iron. . . . Fool-proof con-
struction. . . . Fitted with
rustless Brass Pipe. . . . Angle
Stream. . . . Mouth Guard
. . . . Each drink fresh from
water main. . . . Self-drain-
ing. . . . Anti-freezing. . . .
Foot-controlled.

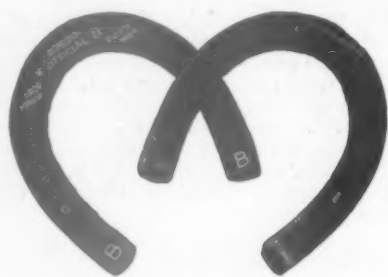
THE
Murdock Mfg. & Supply Co.
Established 1853
426 Plum St., Cincinnati, O.

Murdock

Outdoor Bubble Font

DIAMOND

EAGLE RINGER PITCHING SHOE



The Eagle Ringer Pitching Shoe is the top-notch of the Diamond line. Drop forged from special Diamond horseshoe steel—hard or soft. Preferred by amateurs and professionals.

Also Diamond Official — Diamond Junior — Double Ringer and pitching shoe accessories.

The Most Complete Line!

DIAMOND CALK HORSESHOE CO.

4610 Grand Ave., Duluth, Minn.



CLARENCE HOWARD

The recreation movement has lost a good friend in the death of Clarence Howard, former president of the Commonwealth Steel Company of St. Louis. Mr. Howard took a personal interest in the development of the recreation movement. He did not merely content himself in sending contributions, but actually came to the national headquarters to talk over recreation problems. For thirteen years he shared in the national recreation movement.

His own spirit was the kind of spirit which the recreation movement ought to help create. He was a great soul. Mr. Howard's courage, optimism, enthusiasm, boyishness, helped all who came in contact with him. He had a great gift for inspiring confidence.

Escort them to the next room where a table with refreshments has already been set up. The table should be decorated in red and white and the centerpiece and favors should be miniature airplanes. As the old saying goes, the way to a man's—and even a woman's—heart is through the stomach. Can one ask for a more effective climax to a party?

Note: The games "Aviation" and "Valentine Greetings" were adapted from "What'll We Do Now" by Longstreth and Holton.

Health Values of Winter Sports

(Continued from page 615)

of adequate dimensions much can be done without great expense in providing facilities for children. Snow from the streets can be dumped in these areas to form slides for coasting, and a smooth ground surface when properly watered can be made into a safe and pleasureable skating rink.

If natural ponds or artificial pools are to be used for skating purposes, it is essential that authorities first determine the thickness of the ice before allowing children to skate. It might be well for parents as well to observe the rules laid down by the National Safety Council in this respect: Ice one inch thick is not safe. Two inches of ice will hold one person. Three inches will hold small groups, and four inches will hold large groups.

It is well to remember that fresh air without sunshine is not sufficient for bodily development and that parents should see to it that their children are given every opportunity to utilize the benefits of sunny days. It might be pointed out here that normal growth of certain organs is dependent on vitamins transferred into the body by sunshine. The defective teeth prevalent among large numbers of people in fog areas of England are due to the lack of adequate sunshine.

Lighting for Winter Sports

(Continued from page 616)

to finance itself from increased patronage. Smaller slides and ski jumps, which are usually found in the average municipal recreation park, can be adequately lighted by a few properly located floodlights.

The illumination of such winter sports, including the competitive events, has proven so satisfactory to the participants and spectators alike that many of the skating races of the 1932 Olympic Sports, held at Lake Placid, New York, will be staged under such artificial lighting.

Forest Activities

(Continued from page 607)

Playlets, mentioned above, also contains a number of songs written to old or familiar tunes. The State Foresters of Georgia, Alabama, Florida, and Louisiana have published forestry programs in which are given several songs.

Special Certificates and College Degrees for Students and Teachers

of Physical Education and Athletic Coaching PENN STATE SUMMER SESSION July 5 to August 12

Wide variety of graduate, and under-graduate courses. Prominent coaching staff. Modern gymnasium. An ideal environment for health and study.

Special Bulletin on Request

Address

Director of Summer Session

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE COLLEGE
STATE COLLEGE, PA.

In the Hearts of His Countrymen

By MARION HOLBROOK

THE demand for this pageant-play depicting scenes from the life of Washington has been so great that a second edition has become necessary.

Have you sent for your copy?

Price \$.25

NATIONAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION
315 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

WHY CLAY COURTS

You too can have RED or GREEN championship courts.

RUBICO RED or GREEN DRESSING

Impregnated into your present surface will give you a fast drying resilient court the equal to any expensive court manufactured at a very small cost to you.

RUBICO RED or GREEN DRESSING

is shipped in 100 lb. bags anywhere with full directions for applying.

A new RUBICO FAST DRYING TENNIS COURT

will cost less to construct than a good clay court and is far superior. It requires practically no upkeep. Write for complete information.

RUBIEN CONSTRUCTION CO.

Westfield

New Jersey

Phone 2-1807

Largest designers and builders of athletic fields and tennis courts in America.

A Valentine Party in 1982

HERE are suggestions for a 50-year-from-now party which community centers, clubs, churches and groups of all kinds will find novel and entertaining. Send for a copy.

Price \$1.10

NATIONAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION

315 FOURTH AVENUE

NEW YORK CITY

Build it Yourself

If you have a home workshop, here's just the magazine you need. Each issue of *Popular Homecraft* is crammed with plans for making such beautiful and useful things as: Book Cases, China Cabinets, Bird Houses, Ship Models, Rustic Furniture, Lamps, Children's Playthings, Tea Tables, Antiques, Candle Sticks, etc. Covers wood-working, metal-working, lathe work, leather work, toys, copper, brass and pewter work. Explains use and care of tools. A real "How-to-do-it" magazine. Scores of large, clear drawings make every step simple as A B C.

SIX MONTHS' TRIAL \$1.00
Send \$1.00 today for trial 6 months' subscription. Money back if not delighted.
POPULAR HOMECRAFT
771 N. Michigan Ave. Chicago, Ill.



Trial 6 Months \$1.00

An Experiment in Drama

(Continued from page 617)

every one in the class taking part, either as players or workers. This plan sustained the interest throughout the course, and also afforded an occasion of considerable entertainment.

As a part of the institute, a Play-Finding Committee was appointed to select and present lists of plays suited to particular ages, groups and occasions. This was found a most practical way of meeting the needs of all the communities for every purpose and season. From these lists plays and books of technique were bought and made available to the members for reading or copying, and in this way the nucleus of a really usable library has been created.

A workshop was established at one of the central centers, where costumes, drapes, sky cycloramas, stylized wood drapes, and various other stage accessories were designed and dyed. Tin pails were turned into flood lights, old chairs converted into thrones and period settees, faded cretonne restored to brilliance and usefulness for portieres and window hangings, stretchers transformed into screens, and a general process of creating, contriving and salvaging carried on.

The culmination of all these occupations and activities was a tournament of junior and senior

groups running from April 6th to the 13th, with eighteen competing centers entering thirty plays in which 266 players took part, with all the principals and dramatic directors participating as committees and workers. Thirteen junior and seventeen senior plays were presented, and there were three runners-up in each group. The audience averaged 250 for each performance. The ages of the players were from eight to twenty-five, and the types of plays included fantasy, farce, comedy, travesty, drama, folk-lore, and poetic romance. Some of these were done exceptionally well; all were marked by careful selection, direction and presentation.

One of the interesting features of the tournament was the selection of the second play in the junior group, *Imagination*, for broadcasting over one of the local stations. This broadcast, done with surprising success, has opened up a new and wide field for dramatics in the recreation centers, and it is planned to have regular broadcasting during the next season.

A Washington Party

(Continued from page 621)

York. It would be difficult to reproduce such a feast today, but we have one gentlemen's word for it that "Wafel-frolics" were given. He wrote enthusiastically of such an entertainment that he attended and was "not a little grieved that so luxurious a feast should come under the name of a wafel-frolic, because if this be the case I must expect but a few wafel-frolics for the future." Evidently the hostess did not confine herself to the simple fare. Fruit punches and cider seem to have been the principal drink served. Ice cream can be served without fear of an anachronism as there is a report of a very lively party given in Philadelphia at which ice cream was served during the early part of the evening. Later there was supper. Partners for supper are found by matching words, written on pieces of paper, relating to the Revolution. For example, one paper will bear the word "Bunker" and the partner's paper will read "Hill."

Where to Secure Supplies

British flags, eight by twelve inches, can be obtained from Annin and Company, 85 Fifth Avenue, New York City. They cost fifteen cents each. American flags of the same size can be obtained at the same price.

Small metal bells can be bought from B. Shackman and Company, 906 Broadway, New York City, for twenty-five cents a dozen.

Very graceful colonial silhouettes are found at the Dennison Manufacturing Company, 220 Fifth Avenue, New York City. They cost ten cents a piece or two for fifteen cents. It would not be difficult to make others from several of these models.

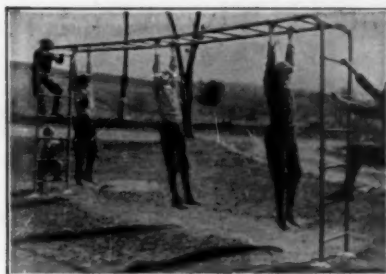
The Leisure Problem

(Continued from page 634)

the print is fine to look at and the matter irreproachable, the margin is best left white and clean, save for a few marks of personal appreciation or corroboration. Sometimes, as in the essays or examination papers that some of us have to read (for our sins), the margin must be filled with corrections or comments in blue pencil or red ink. So when the daily text of life is poor and mean, the margin of leisure must be used to correct and readjust it.

But the ideal perhaps is to be found in one of those old illuminated manuscripts of the Middle Ages that you may see in the Bodleian, and that belong to the days (though I do not say the good old days) before the age of the machine. The big black letters of the small space of text are surrounded by beautiful and delicate pictures and decorations—brightly coloured scrolls and leaves and flowers or landscapes and portraits that illustrate and illuminate the text. And in Utopia the margin of leisure will be wide and full of beauty, if, indeed, the text and the margin are distinguishable, and a man's leisure will illuminate and illustrate his work. For work and play, industry and art, will have come together, craftsmanship will complete the work of the machine, and the machine the work of craftsmanship; leisure will complete the life of work, and work complete the life of leisure.

Till then we must prize what margin of leisure is vouchsafed to us, and fill it with what fancies most delight us and are most likely in their turn to delight our fellow-men.



Popular PLAYGROUND Equipment

One factor in making the "American" line popular is the completeness of it. Every type of playground device may be had. Our new 1932 Catalog shows an ultra-complete line of playground equipment that has won the confidence of hundreds of park and playground superintendents. Get your catalog now—see the many new "American" Devices illustrated therein.

**AMERICAN
PLAYGROUND DEVICE
CO.**

Anderson, Indiana

▲▲▲ The constant progress of a billion dollar field is accurately and interestingly reflected in the pages of "Southern City." ▲▲▲

▲▲▲ Here you will find news of the latest activities of public officials throughout the South—news of undertakings accomplished and plans for future activities.

CITY
SOUTHERN

DIXIE'S ONLY SOUTHWIDE
CITY BUILDING PUBLICATION

Baker & Ivy Streets
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Magazines and Pamphlets

*Recently Received Containing Articles
of Interest to the Recreation Worker*

MAGAZINES

Parks and Recreation, October 1931

Park Contraptions, by Harold A. Caparn
Ocean Pool at Kitsilano Beach, by A. S. Wootton
Poetic Park Trails, by Paul B. Riis
The Grab Bag—Recreation and Unemployment, by V. K. Brown
New Features in a Swimming Pool, by V. K. Brown
Outdoor Field Sports
Bitumuls for Parks, by R. M. Morton

Scouting November 1931

November Hikes

Parks and Recreation, November 1931

Park Design for 1931, by Phelps Wyman
General Co-ordination of the Fundamental Departments of Park Work, by George T. Donoghue
Revenue Producing Facilities in Public Parks, by Henry W. Busch
Venetian Night Boat Parade, by V. K. Brown
The Grab Bag
Rifle and Trap Shooting Ranges

Child Welfare, December 1931

The Gang Age, by J. W. Faust

Parks and Recreation, December 1931

This issue is devoted to winter sports and describes the activities of a number of cities. It also includes articles on skiing, the illumination of winter sports, ice hockey and ice boating.

The American City, January 1932

How Much Play Space Does a City Need? by George D. Butler
Park and Playground Standards and Achievements in the Chicago Region, by Robert Kingery
Macon Makes a Park to Provide Employment
Here Young Athenians Play
Active Recreation Development Reported

PAMPHLETS

Twentieth Annual Report of the Department of Playgrounds, District of Columbia, 1931

Annual Playground Report of the Recreation Commission of the City of Norwalk, Connecticut, 1931

Initial Report of the Regional Planning Commission, Hamilton County, Ohio, 1931

Annual Report of the Division of Parks and Recreation of the Department of Public Welfare, St. Louis, 1931

Report of the Forester, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, for the Year Ending June 30, 1931

High Lights of Teaching Activities in the Schools of Fresno City, 1930-31.

Annual Report of Fresno Public Schools, 1930-31

Vacation Time Can Be Character Time for Fresno Boys and Girls

The Recreation Log, 1931—Report of the Department of Public Recreation, Millburn, New Jersey

Parks Department Annual Report—Calgary, Canada

Bibliography on Education of the Negro
Office of Education, Bulletin No. 17—1931
Government Printing Office, \$10

Tenth Annual Report 1931 of the Recreation Department of Passaic, New Jersey

New Books on Recreation

George Washington Pageants and Plays

United States George Washington Bicentennial Commission, Washington Building, Washington, D. C. Free.

FOR the nation-wide celebration in 1932 of the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of George Washington the Bicentennial Commission has published a list of pageants and plays depicting the life of George Washington and his time. The material in the pamphlet is presented in two main divisions: (1) that issued by the Commission and distributed without charge, and (2) that available through publishers throughout the country. The Commission requests that two copies of the program of any George Washington play or pageant be sent to the Pageant and Play Department, United States George Washington Bicentennial Commission, Washington Building, Washington, D. C., to be placed on file in the annals of the Commission which will become a permanent memorial.

Distributed Leisure

By L. C. Walker. The Century Company, New York. \$2.25.

"THE simple truth is," says the author, a practical business man with thirty years of experience in business administration, "we have been giving so much thought to turning out goods and putting them up in attractive packages that we have given no thought to packing leisure in usable units. . . . Our industrial machine has been so busy for the past fifteen years grinding out larger and ever larger quantities of goods that its other product has been neglected. The problem is how shall we make usable leisure with our production machine? How shall we package leisure?"

The author's thesis is that the world today needs goods and leisure, but what it has are goods and mass unemployment. If mass unemployment could be converted into usable leisure the aim of our industrial life would be attained. This can be accomplished, the author believes, through an equitable distribution of work and leisure and by making leisure desirable and beneficial.

Music for Public School Administrators

By Peter W. Dykema, Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, New York City, 1931. \$1.75.

EVERY question with respect to recreational music for children or adults in these days is likely to lead to questions as to what is being done in music in the public schools. Professor Dykema's book is an excellent reference for any such inquiries. It presents an illuminating exposition of the place and possibilities of music in public schools from kindergarten through senior high schools. It deals with such questions as the following:

"Why and How Should Music Be Taught in the Public Schools?" "What Musical Skills and Appreciations May Be Expected of Pupils in Each Year of the Primary and Intermediate Grades and the Junior and Senior High Schools?" "What Shall Be Done for the Monotone or Unmusical Child?" It presents also plans for the organization of orchestras, bands, class instruction in instruments, choruses, glee clubs, and rhythm bands, and it describes the various types of musical instruments and other equipment needed. Furthermore it presents the prices and sources of such instruments and other equipment.

The Child and His Home

By H. W. Hurt, Ph. D. Minton, Balch & Co., New York. \$2.50.

DR. HURT has brought together in this one volume a large body of statistical information and research findings. Although the emphasis in the book, particularly in the earlier parts of it, is on the contribution of the home to various aspects of child development, the book itself covers many factors affecting child life which lie outside of the home. The title of the book is somewhat misleading in this respect. Apparently the volume is intended to encompass the general field covered by the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection, and a great deal of the material in the book is based upon reports presented to that Conference.

National Parks, National Monuments and National Forests

St. Louis Public Library, St. Louis, Missouri.

THE students of the St. Louis Library School have done a valuable piece of work in compiling this selective list of books and articles relating to our national parks, monuments and forests. It is intended as a practical reading list for the tourist or the reader interested in the marvels of our country. Some titles on early explorations, scientific investigations and geology are included, as well as many giving popular descriptions and information for users of the nation's most important public lands.

Municipal Outdoor Swimming Pools

By Roger J. Bounds. Civic Development Department, Chamber of Commerce of the United States.

THIS reprint from *The Municipal Index—1931* gives the result of a study of swimming pools, their construction, operation and maintenance. The material is based on a study of 221 outdoor pools. The information, covering the number of pools, dimensions, capacity, construction, fees, use, method of cleaning pool and purifying water, is arranged in tabulated form.

Health Through Leisure-Time Recreation.

By Edith M. Gates. The Womans Press, New York. \$2.50.

In this statement of the philosophy and scope of a health education program for girls and women, Miss Gates has presented something more than an historical statement of the health education program of the Y. W. C. A., though she has described in some detail the evolution of the program. She has given us a series of well balanced suggestions for happy and efficient functioning of the healthy personality through the maintenance of high health standards. It is not a highly technical volume; rather is it a simply presented statement of some of the ways in which girls and women may get the most out of life through participation in activities which make for happiness. Not only physical activities are suggested but the entire range of recreational and cultural interests. And "health," as Miss Gates conceives of it, is not an end in itself but a means to happy living, and health education is one method of achieving this objective. There is much in the book which recreation workers in all fields as well as in Y. W. C. A.'s will find helpful—the program items listed; the suggestions for helping girls and young women meet their problems; the well chosen list of books and source material.

Books—A Selected List For Parents and Teachers.

Child Study Association of America, 221 West 57th Street, New York. \$35.

The sixth edition of the list of books for parents and teachers, compiled by the Parents' Bibliography Committee of the Child Study Association of America, contains more than five hundred books as contrasted with the forty-nine books of the 1914 list—no small measure of the development of parent education literature. New subjects are being introduced into each edition of the list, philosophy being the new member of the 1931 edition. There are nineteen headings under which the books are grouped, Play and Recreation being one of these. Brief information is given about each book, and the publisher and price are listed.

Planting and Care of Lawns.

U. S. Department of Agriculture. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. Farmers' Bulletin No. 1677. \$0.5.

There are many practical suggestions in this bulletin which recreation executives will be glad to have in connection with the preparation of any special areas which may have grassy surfaces.

Plays For Civic Days.

Compiled and edited by A. P. Sanford. Dodd, Mead and Company, New York. \$2.50.

There are twenty citizenship plays for community centers in this compilation of plays. They are designated for presentation by young people and are easy to produce.

Parties For Children.

McCall's Magazine, New York. \$20.

Delightful parties are outlined here—for Christmas, Easter, Fourth of July, St. Patrick's Day, St. Valentine's Day, and Hallowe'en. There is, too, an Alice in Bookland party and a Spring Flower party. Birthday parties for tiny tots form a valuable section of the booklet.

Year's Best Books For Children—1931.

Child Study Association of America, 221 West 57th Street, New York. \$10.

As an approximate guide the books suggested have been divided into age groups such as the youngest child; the primary age; the intermediate age; junior high school; senior high school. There is also a list of books for special interests.

Billboards and Aesthetic Legislation.

By Lucius H. Cannon. Municipal Reference Library, St. Louis Public Library, 408 City Hall, St. Louis, Missouri. \$25.

"Never has there been such great interest," says Harland Bartholomew in the introduction to this pamphlet, "in the matter of preserving the natural beauties of our countryside or the somewhat more artificial beauties of our cities." The compilation, prepared by the St. Louis Municipal Reference Library, contains the laws passed by various cities and states to control outdoor advertising and gives a brief digest of a number of outstanding lawsuits. There is also a selected list of books, pamphlets and periodical articles on the subject. This pamphlet will be of interest to all who are concerned with preserving our natural beauties.

Along the Brook.

By Raymond T. Fuller. The John Day Company, New York. \$1.50.

"Know one brook well," is Mr. Fuller's advice, and he tells how to make the acquaintance of the insects, birds, fish, turtles and frogs, flowers and plants which live in or near our brooks. It is not so much a handbook of nature study as it is an alluring invitation to come outdoors at any time of the year.

Home Play.

Extension Service, Colorado Agricultural College, Fort Collins, Colorado.

Home Play contains fifty answers to the question: "What can we play?" The games suggested have been classified under three general headings—active games, quiet games, and pencil and paper games. In most cases no equipment is necessary.

Officers and Directors of the National Recreation Association

OFFICERS

JOSEPH LEE, President
JOHN H. FINLEY, First Vice-President
JOHN G. WINANT, Second Vice-President
ROBERT GARRETT, Third Vice-President
GUSTAVUS T. KIRBY, Treasurer
HOWARD S. BRAUCHER, Secretary

DIRECTORS

MRS. EDWARD W. BIDDLE, Carlisle, Pa.
WILLIAM BUTTERWORTH, Moline, Ill.
CLARENCE M. CLARK, Philadelphia, Pa.
HENRY L. CORBETT, Portland, Ore.
MRS. ARTHUR G. CUMMER, Jacksonville, Fla.
F. TRUBEE DAVISON, Locust Valley, L. I., N. Y.
MRS. THOMAS A. EDISON, West Orange, N. J.
JOHN H. FINLEY, New York, N. Y.
HUGH FRAYNE, New York, N. Y.
ROBERT GARRETT, Baltimore, Md.
AUSTIN E. GRIFFITHS, Seattle, Wash.
WILLIAM HALE HARKNESS, New York, N. Y.
CHARLES HAYDEN, New York, N. Y.
MRS. CHARLES V. HICKOX, Michigan City, Ind.
MRS. FRANCIS DELACY HYDE, Plainfield, N. J.
GUSTAVUS T. KIRBY, New York, N. Y.
H. McK. LANDON, Indianapolis, Ind.
MRS. CHARLES D. LANIER, Greenwich, Conn.
ROBERT LASSITER, Charlotte, N. C.
JOSEPH LEE, Boston, Mass.
EDWARD E. LOOMIS, New York, N. Y.
J. H. McCURDY, Springfield, Mass.
OTTO T. MALLERY, Philadelphia, Pa.
WALTER A. MAY, Pittsburgh, Pa.
CARL E. MILLIKEN, Augusta, Me.
MISS ELLEN SCRIPPS, LaJolla, Calif.
FREDERICK S. TITSWORTH, New York, N. Y.
MRS. JAMES W. WADSWORTH, Jr., Washington, D. C.
J. C. WALSH, New York, N. Y.
JOHN G. WINANT, Concord, N. H.
MRS. WILLIAM H. WOODIN, Jr., Plainfield, N. J.
FREDERICK M. WARRBURG, New York, N. Y.
C. S. WESTON, Scranton, Pa.